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VOL. 26, NO. 35 • APRIL 26–MAY 2, 2017

the Stranger

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SEATTLE TECH FIGHTS TRUMP ONE PIECE
OF CODE AT A TIME **BY AMBER CORTES P. 14**

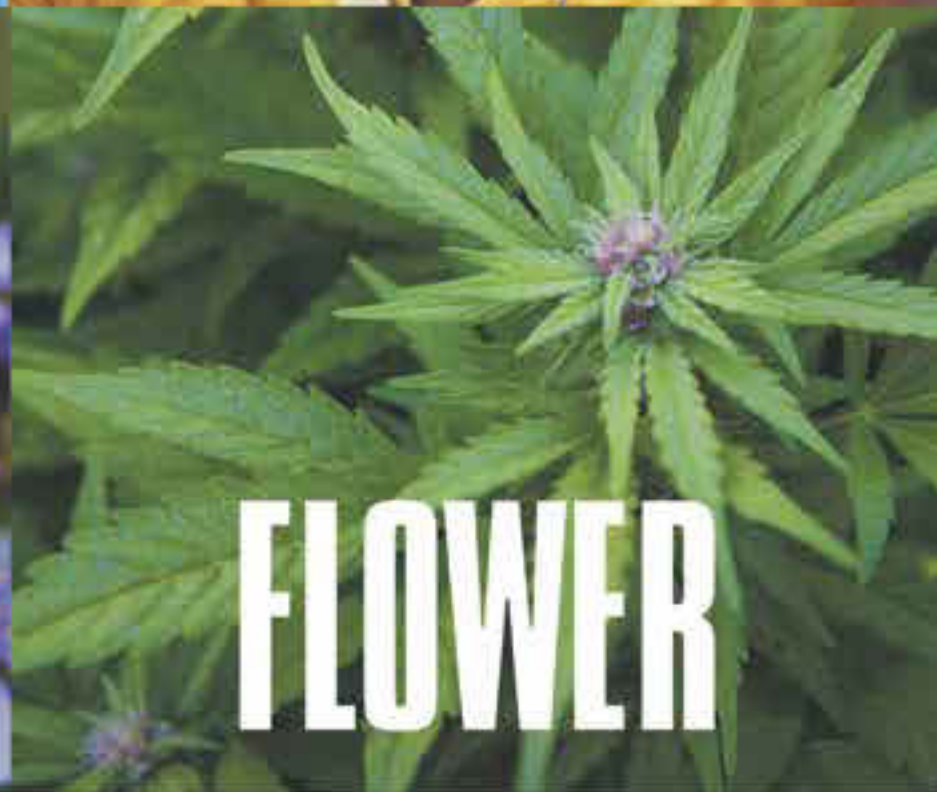
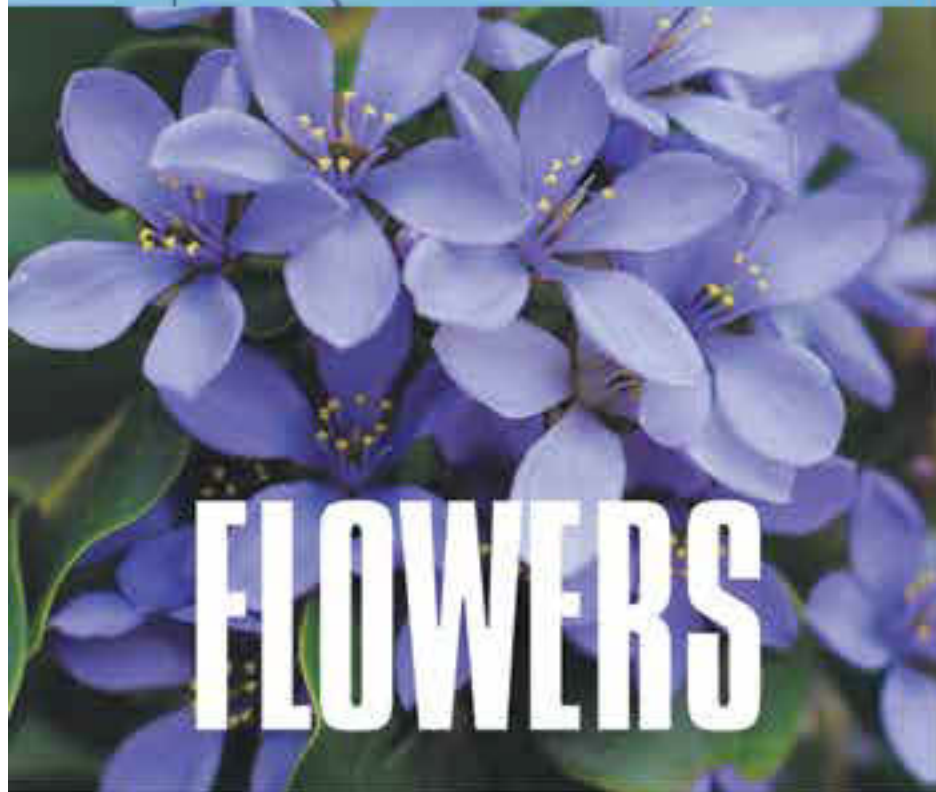
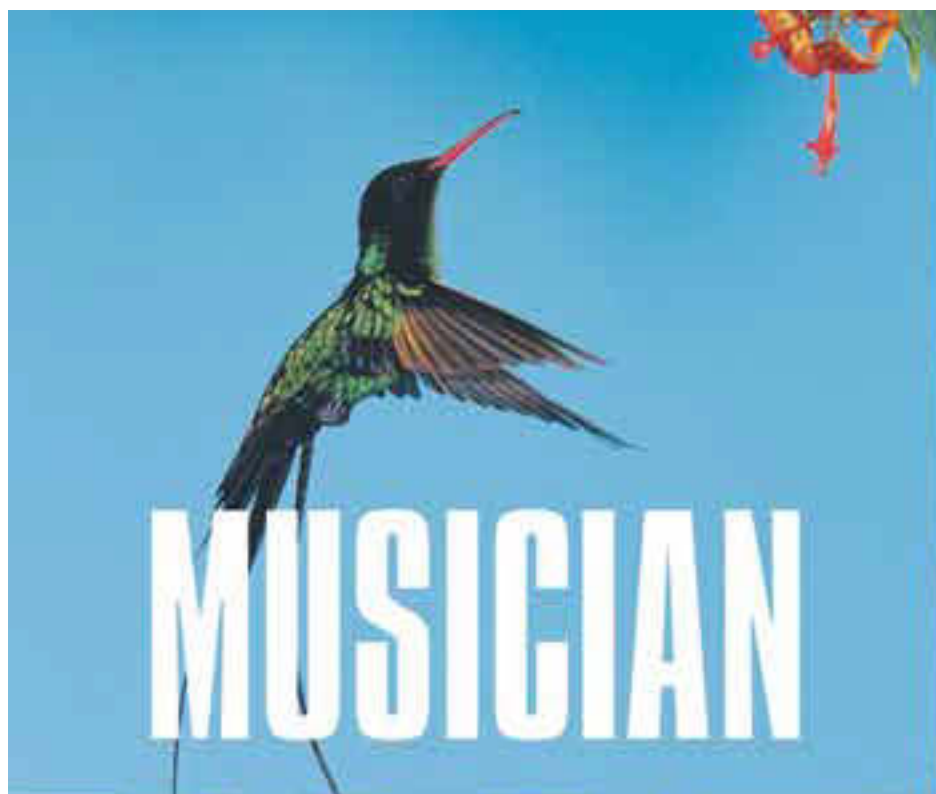
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OPEN CITY PRESIDENT
JILL STEIN **P. 7**

WHO SAID IT? STEPHEN BANNON OR
AN ANARCHIST? **P. 7**

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Hey, Stranger. **Thanks for visiting.**



(By the way, the Ginger-Molasses Chocolate Chip Cookie was incredible.)



the Stranger

Volume 26, Issue Number 35
April 26–May 2, 2017



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THE STRANGER 1535 11th Avenue,
Third Floor, Seattle, WA 98122
VOICE (206) 323-7101 **FAX** (206) 323-7203
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NEWS



CITY OF SEATTLE

MAYOR MURRAY One of his 2008 accusers, Lloyd Anderson, told *The Stranger* that he wants the mayor to resign.

“I’ve Been Going Through Hell”

Another One of Mayor Murray’s 2008 Accusers Tells His Story

BY SYDNEY BROWNSTONE

In 2007, 40-year-old Jeff Simpson initiated a civil childhood-sexual-abuse case against then-state legislator Ed Murray for allegedly molesting Simpson when he was a teenager. Brian Williams, Simpson’s lawyer, dropped the case the following year because of a statute-of-limitations issue. But before Williams dropped the case, the lawyer said he found corroborating evidence for Simpson’s story from Lloyd Anderson, a 51-year-old man who currently lives in Florida.

Like Simpson, Anderson claimed that Murray paid him cash in exchange for sexual favors when Anderson was a teenager. Simpson and Anderson say they met at the Parry Center for Children, a treatment center for children in Portland, where Murray once worked.

Anderson’s story was reported in the *Seattle Times*, but he’s stayed out of the spotlight

in recent days after the newest allegations—by a man who recently revealed himself to be

Delvonn Heckard—were filed in King County Superior Court. Simpson told *The Stranger* that Anderson, who is a convicted sex offender, has been having a rough time with his story blowing up in the media.

But on April 18, *The Stranger* received a call from a Florida number. It was Anderson, and

he said that he was ready to talk.

Anderson told *The Stranger* that in the early 1980s, Murray coerced him into having dinner at his Portland apartment, where Murray allegedly paid Anderson for oral sex when Anderson was 17, below Oregon’s age of consent. Anderson claimed that Murray paid him for oral sex “quite a few times,” supplied weed and alcohol, and that Murray was forceful with him during these encounters.

In response to these claims, Katherine ►

“I wake up in the middle of the night dealing with this.”

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◀Heekin, one of Murray's current lawyers as well as the lawyer who represented Murray in 2007 and 2008, said she remembered Murray "did know of [Anderson] as another person at the Parry Center." Still, Heekin said, Murray never engaged in inappropriate conduct with Anderson.

The following is a condensed interview with Anderson, lightly edited for clarity.

How old were you when you went to the Parry Center?

I think I was 8 or 9. [At 14,] they found a good foster home for me. Unfortunately, by then I was too far gone into the system. I really couldn't accept their love or anything. That's when Jeff [Simpson] and I got in contact again, briefly. I may have been 16. Jeff told me that Ed [Murray] was messing with him. And you probably want to know about the sexual stuff.

Whatever you're comfortable telling me.

I remember [Jeff] just sitting and talking to me [about Ed allegedly molesting him], and of course when you're that age, you don't think there's anything you can do. When I was 16 or 17, I saw Ed and he coerced me into coming over to the house under the pretenses that Jeff was there and we were supposed to have dinner. But Jeff was never there, and this is really embarrassing to say, but, you know, I had a girlfriend and I didn't have any money, and Ed offered me the money. And I figured if I could get money, I could take my girl out. So yes, I did perform sexual favors for him for money and for marijuana.

How much did he pay you?

I believe it was anywhere—I can't remember exactly—between \$15 and \$30. It really varied on how much money he supposedly had.

Can you explain more what you meant by you didn't think there was anything you could do?

Jeff was telling me about Ed abusing him. We were just kids. What would we do? We were brought up in Parry Center. If anything happened to us, it was like it didn't happen or whatever. But you've got to remember, this is back in the late 1970s, early '80s, and that's when nobody gave a shit about us.

How many times did it happen?

It was quite a few times, but I cannot tell you how many times. Remember, this was 35 years ago.

When did you stop having contact with Murray?

It had to be late 1983 or '84. After I turned 18, I said, "Uh-uh, no way, no more."

Why did you stop seeing him?

Jeff was never around. I think maybe I finally got smart and wised up and said, "Wait a minute, he invites me over to come and have dinner with Jeff, and Jeff is never there." So I finally wised up to it. To be honest with you, I wasn't the brightest bulb.

Adults are supposed to take responsibility.

I don't know if you read this or not, but I am a convicted sex offender.

I did read that.

And it is the adult—the adult needs to take care of it, and I didn't at that time. I didn't. I do accept responsibility for that. I take full responsibility for that now.

How did your alleged experience with Murray affect you after you turned 18?

Periodically, I would have dreams about it, but I tried my best to block it out. And I did for a long time, until one day I got a call from Jeff Simpson. And that was back in 2008, I believe. And then it just brought everything back. And for the last eight years, I have been going through hell. It just keeps coming up. I dream about it. Even though he paid me and everything, the man was not nice. He was vicious.

What do you mean by not nice, vicious?

I was supposed to perform oral sex, but he was like really vicious about it. It was like hardcore oral sex, and so it was, I mean, like pushing my head down and everything, almost violent.

Did you ever tell him you didn't want to do it?

I don't remember if I did or not, to be honest with you.

He would get you drunk first?

Yeah. Well, I would say "feeling pretty damn good," you know. And I was a weed smoker at the time. So he supplied the weed.

Did anyone pay you for sexual favors before Murray allegedly did?

No.

After Murray?

No.

You mentioned you've been going through an emotional time lately. What does that mean?

I can't say I've been having nightmares, but I have had dreams. I wake

up in the middle of the night dealing with this, and my wife has a hard time understanding. She's trying to understand. And who would think this would come up 35 years later? But evidently it does. And then I have to deal with the fact that I am a sex offender. I would never use the statement "Well, the abused becomes the abuser," but... I don't know.

Murray says the accusations are politically motivated. Is your coming forward politically motivated?

I have absolutely no political anything. I am not a Democrat. I'm not a Republican. I'm not an independent. I am not political at all—in any way, shape, or form.

Anything else you want to say?

I want him to know that I want him to resign, because this is not going to stop. He's not a very good representative of the state of Washington. I am a Christian, and I do forgive. I won't forget, but I do forgive. And that's probably the only thing that's kept me alive this long, because I do have forgiveness in my heart.

Did you follow the news when Murray became mayor? Did you follow his political rise?

Absolutely not. No, I did not. When it all came out in the Seattle news, it took me five days to even look at it, because I was so nervous and so scared. I don't follow it, and I'm really not interested. I'm telling my side of the story. I'm telling the truth, and that's all that needs to be said.

One more thing: I have been happily married for 23 years. I have two children and I also am a happy grandfather. And my life is doing okay now. I did want to say that. I am a survivor. I have survived it—other people don't. I pray that Ed's other victims can find some comfort. ■



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WEED

Olympia Passes a Bunch of New Weed Legislation

Home Growing, “Organic” Pot, and Your Right to Share a Joint Are Just Waiting for the Governor’s Signature

BY LESTER BLACK

Just before Olympia’s regular session ended last week, a huge “omnibus bill” of pot laws quietly passed the legislature. The bill tackles a ton of legal issues, and it is now sitting on the governor’s desk waiting for a signature. Governor Jay Inslee has 20 days to sign it, though his office declined to comment on his feelings about the bill.

So what’s in this omnibus bill? A lot.

Medical cannabis patients can buy pot plants and seeds directly from producers. This fixes a huge problem from when the state merged medical cannabis into recreational cannabis last year. Under the old medical system, patients who wanted to grow their own pot at home could buy seeds or even clone plants directly from patient collectives. But when the state merged the two systems, it didn’t provide any legal way for patients to buy seeds or clones—sending them to the black market. This fixes that.

For the first time, the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board will study legalizing recreational home growing. We are the only state in the country that legalized recreational pot without allowing adults to legally grow pot at home. Right now, only people with medical pot cards can grow their own weed. The state is nervous about giving everyone this right while trying to stay out of the crosshairs of the “expect to see greater enforcement” Trump administration. This law would force the WSLCB to study the feasibility of legalizing recreational home growing and publish a report by December of this year. This isn’t the rule change home-grow advocates are asking for, but this is the first time the WSLCB has officially studied changing the rules, and it will force the state to be on record on why we should or should not be able to decorate our homes with weed plants.

The state Department of Agriculture will run an “organic” certification program. If the governor signs this bill, there will now be an official certification for pot grown using organic methods. There are already private companies issuing “organic” certifications, but having a state-regulated certification has been a wish for a lot of the growers following these organic methods. The state won’t be able to use the word “organic,” because that is a federally controlled term and cannabis is

still completely illegal under federal law, but this program will allow customers to know their pot was grown using organic methods.

Retail owners can own five pot dispensaries. State law previously limited weed store owners to three retail licenses (which is why big chain shops like Uncle Ike’s and Evergreen Market each have three locations). This would increase the limit to five. Don’t be surprised if these chain stores continue duplicating if the governor signs this bill—retail consolidation appears to be a moneymaker in this industry.

Weed billboards can no longer show pictures of pot. Lawmakers are getting nervous about the increasing creativity of pot advertising, so they’ve decided to make it illegal to depict a pot plant on a billboard or use any images of cartoon characters, toys, inflatables, or anything else “likely to be appealing to youth.” It’s a cutthroat business world right now in the age of plummeting pot prices, so it’s not surprising that retailers are trying to lure more people in with creative roadside signs. But if the governor signs this bill, they’ll be limited to displaying only their

logo, business name, and locations on any billboards they commission.

The state will study legalizing industrial-hemp production. Despite legalizing pot, growing hemp is still illegal in our state. This bill instructs the Department of Agriculture and the WSLCB to study the feasibility of legalizing industrial-hemp production. The state already created a pilot program in 2016 to allow some hemp grown for research, but hemp has yet to be grown under that program. It’s not clear if that’s from a lack of interest or some regulatory delays, but this study is likely to force the question on legalizing industrial-hemp crops.

You can now legally “pass the dutchie on the left-hand side.” State law currently prohibits sharing pot with anyone, even if both parties are of legal age. So you were unknowingly committing an act of civil disobedience last weekend when you passed that joint to your buddy. That would no longer be the case if the governor signs this bill, so everyone who has smoked weed with a friend in the last four years can now claim a legal victory in a battle we didn’t know we were fighting. In the age of Trump, I’ll take any political win I can get. ■



MIKE FORCE

The Liquor and Cannabis Board will study legalizing recreational home growing.

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SEATTLE'S TECH COMMUNITY IS FIGHTING TRUMP ONE PIECE OF CODE AT A TIME

BY AMBER CORTES

If you happened to be walking through Westlake Park on the afternoon of March 1, you may have missed the Seattle-area “Tech Employees for Diversity and Inclusion” protest. It was only a handful of people holding signs and chanting: “No hate, no fear, everyone is welcome here!”

On Facebook, 334 people said they were interested in the event, 74 marked themselves as “going,” but there couldn’t have been more than a couple dozen people who actually showed up. And compared to the Women’s March, which drew 175,000 people in Seattle alone, and the immigration rights protests that had sprung up recently in response to the new administration, it was sort of a sorry sight.

“The problem with this industry,” explains Raine Dargis, “is that there are too many introverts. We need extroverts to organize a protest.” Dargis, one of the organizers (and a self-described introvert), is a software engineer at what she calls “a big company”—but she won’t say its name.

The big tech companies, for their part, have been fighting Trump on the legal front over immigration and visas—two issues that affect their ability to hire skilled workers in the tech field. Apple, Twitter, Facebook, Microsoft, and Google were among the 127 companies that filed court papers against Trump’s executive order on immigration February 6. And tech companies like Microsoft are looking for ways to find exceptions to Trump’s crackdown on H-1B visas. But oftentimes, tech employees themselves can’t associate any political causes with the companies where they work (for instance, workers were asked not to wear any company logos to the protest).

Despite the disappointing turnout, Dargis says, the tech community—not the companies themselves, but the people who work there—is well-positioned to fight Trump, if they could ever get out from behind their computers. But maybe for them, the best way to fight Trump is from their keyboards.

In Seattle, a decidedly liberal-minded sanctuary city, resistance has come from many quarters, some of which have been people coding up a storm—making apps to connect immigrants with legal help, saving valuable data from being destroyed, and helping make sense of the latest onslaught of confusing, rapid-fire Trump news.

But can a community made up of the same people who brought you delivery drones and perfected the art of getting everything you need with a push of a button without ever having to leave your house deal with the messy

THE TECH RESISTANCE

realities of going beyond the screen to make things happen IRL? Can the tech community, with its privilege and disposable income, actually connect with grassroots movements to make the tools we need to help defeat Trump?

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Among the waves of weary travelers making their way through Sea-Tac Airport on an early Saturday morning stands a well-dressed but unassuming man named Hussain Rachou. The look on his face ranges from excited to deeply anxious, as he switches between scanning who is coming up the escalators to checking his phone.

“My mother. My sister from Germany. Friend from Eugene,” he says, almost flinching every time his phone alerts him to a new message, and then sighing when it’s not the text he is expecting. “They all want to know what is happening.”

Rachou is a Syrian refugee who is just minutes away from reuniting with his family—a wife and two sons, ages 8 and 9—after two years apart. By his side is lawyer Takao Yamada, who has been at the airport since 7 a.m. and is now digging through his contacts to find out what the delay is. He is reassuring Rachou that a more than two-hour wait for Syrian refugees coming out of customs with seven suitcases is, in fact, to be expected.

Since the days and weeks after the smoke cleared from the so-called “Muslim ban” protests at Sea-Tac, Yamada noticed that it was difficult to coordinate matching up lawyers with travelers who arrived at the airport and were at risk of being detained and sent back.

Even though it looks like this particular refugee story will have a happy ending, many don’t. Which is why Yamada invented Airport Lawyer—an app where travelers or their families can submit contact and flight-arrival information ahead of time so on-site lawyers can be arranged. Yamada had been wanting to do something substantial for the struggle since election night—when he had been serving as election protection for the Clinton campaign, monitoring the polls as a legal field volunteer. When the polls closed, Yamada drove back to the hotel thinking Clinton had won. When he got to his room, alone, it was a different story. “Needless to say, I had a lot of time to think,” he says.

He teamed up with the International Refugee Assistance Project and assembled a small group to help build the app over a weekend. Now Airport Lawyer is used in 30 airports across country, and he’s working with Sea-Tac Airport to display more permanent signage.

For Yamada, who had members of his family put into Japanese internment camps, the struggle against Trump’s immigration ban is personal. “Singling out people is very dangerous to me,” he says.

In addition to being a lawyer, Yamada is an entrepreneur with a background in politics and policy work—he was the deputy campaign manager for Judge Mary Yu, once owned a restaurant in Philadelphia, and is the cofounder of a tech start-up that is creating a digital trading platform for the cannabis industry.

Airport Lawyer, Yamada says, is a “crisis agnostic tool”—perfect for the resistance because it was built quickly and is easy to replicate over and over in different situations—things the tech industry does well and can use as ammunition against Trump.

“Tech workers will be building the weapons we’re going to use to fight this administration,” he says, “and being able to marshal that force is something that I think the start-up community can do really effectively.” But one challenge, Yamada says, is tech’s penchant for perfectionism.

“Engineers and developers want to build really great things. But sometimes we don’t



MALCOLM SMITH

AIRPORT LAWYER TO THE RESCUE *Takao Yamada at Sea-Tac Airport.*

need really great things,” he says. “Sometimes we need really simple, shitty things that are going to work.”

Yamada is turning his attention to other projects as well—creating “tools that will help turn interest into action through technology,” like Democratizer, an app that helps activists find protests and actions around issues like civil rights, women’s rights, and the environment. These tools, he says, maximize the impact that the tech community can wield in the opposition landscape.

“Take the dozen people who helped make Airport Lawyer in 48 hours—they’ll make no difference at a protest. Not to say they shouldn’t go. They should, everybody should,” Yamada says. “But the impact those people had by using their tech skills in a politically-oriented way wildly maximized the impact they have. And I think that should be an aspirational goal for everyone.”

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It’s a Saturday afternoon, and all the orange seats in the “Active Learning Classroom” at Odegaard Library are filled with people staring at laptops. There’s some low-level chatter and the sound of the quiet hum of computers as application engineers, web developers, scientists, librarians, and “regular” people sit at round tables and try to save data sets from disappearing under the trigger fingers of a climate-change-denying Trump administration.

The Data Refuge Project—a nationwide collaborative effort in tandem with the Internet Archive, an online archive of more than 286 billion web pages, seeks to preserve and protect federal data and government information that supports environmental research. The project has generated large data-saving events like this one in satellite cities across the country.

Seattle co-organizer Will Smith is stunned at the turnout. “I figured it would be like nerds only,” he jokes, “but you know, right on.” Smith describes himself as a “hobbyist,” not a programmer. “I just do this shit at home.”

Smith, who also moonlights as the sound guy for experimental hip-hop duo Shabazz Palaces, informs me that there’s more to the layout of this room than meets the eye—from

“Take the dozen people who helped make Airport Lawyer in 48 hours—they’ll make no difference at a protest. But the impact those people had by using their tech skills in a politically-oriented way wildly maximized the impact they have.”

end to end, it operates like a well-oiled, on-line-data-preserving machine.

There are the “seeders”—tables populated by “interested citizens that are not particularly programming-centric,” Smith explains, who nominate websites to download from government servers in order to back up elsewhere. At a nearby table, “harvesters” do the actual downloading and repackaging of the data found by the seeders—adding custom metadata to organize the information. Finally, “checkers” and “baggers” look at what that the harvesters have grabbed, making sure that the data set is complete.

By the end of the day, they will have pored over hundreds of websites from all over the world, and thousands of gigs of data will have

been cataloged, saved, and backed up on an independent server and stored with the Internet Archive.

“I believe that data is a public good,” says co-organizer Mary Gifford. Gifford moved to Seattle last year—she works in the private sector as the vice president of content and strategic partnerships for Silicon Valley start-up Tribal Planet (“Such a start-up title!” she laughs)—but prior to that was at the United Nations doing climate-change work.

She admits she’s “not really the activist type,” but after reading about how the Trump administration instructed the Environmental Protection Agency to take down the climate-change page from its website, she felt that “there are certain things that you need to stand up for.”

“Regardless of your politics,” she continues, “there’s data that could be crucial for other things further on that we don’t even know about. To me, it’s the equivalent of modern-day book burning, really.”

Gifford also volunteers her time with Data for Good, a Seattle group that connects hundreds of data scientist volunteers to issues in Seattle that could use some good old-fashioned data (like finding collision risk factors at key intersections in Seattle, for example). Along with Data for Democracy, which recently hosted a hackathon at Ada’s Technical Books on 15th Avenue in partnership with the National Immigration Law Center, there are more than enough nerds in this town to get *something* done when it comes to fighting Trump.

“I think it shows tremendous promise,” she says. “If you had the skills to develop a bunch of tools that would sell sneakers online, why wouldn’t you use those skills for other things, too—right?”

Specifically, programmers are using their skills today to work on saving records of experiments—tables charting sea level rise, tidal information from measurement stations, and more. For the last few hours, Will Weatherford, a software engineer who specializes in using the Python programming language, and Dylan Hutchison, a computer-science graduate student at the University of Washington, have been writing simple Python scripts to mass-archive data sets from places like the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, NASA, and the EPA. ►



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◀ “You could say,” Hutchinson muses, “that this is a form of non-violent resistance. So if the policy is to revoke information related to climate change, then we resist that policy by making that information perpetually available, so that we can continue to study and act on climate change.”

While it's maybe not as flashy as taking to the streets in a roar of mass civil unrest in pink pussy hats, Hutchinson insists writing Python scripts on a Saturday in a library is an equally valuable use of their time—and skills.

“There are many venues of activism,” he says, “and they don't just have to be the visible ‘Let's get out on the streets with signs and have sit-ins’ kinds of actions.”

“This is kind of a sit-in,” Weatherford jokes. “We've been sitting here for a really long time.”

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Every day since Trump took office, Matt Kiser has woken up at six in the morning. He grabs a coffee and scans thousands of news sources on the administration's latest exploits. It sounds like a shitty way to start the day. But Kiser is dedicated to the cause—aggregating news for his website, whatthefuckjusthappenedtoday.com and corresponding daily newsletter (now at more than 80,000 subscribers).

What the Fuck Just Happened Today (WTFJHT) tells you exactly that—it's a daily aggregated record “logging the shock and awe” of every executive order, weird POTUS tweet, ongoing Russian intrigue, and controversy surrounding the state of national politics.

The website boasts a clean, navigable design (days are listed in the header) packed with easily digestible information. Each day starts off with a short title (Day 71: Tumultuous; Day 22: Denials; Day 4: The Upside Down) and lists news items broken down as bullet points, with the occasional embedded tweet or quote. Kiser set up the blog so that it is open-source and hosted on GitHub, so that others could make CSS tweaks and pull requests to edit the content.

“I thought it would be a really interesting idea to take a blog, but treat it the way software development works, make it really agile, use version control, and open it up to collaborate with other developers on the project,” he explains.

A former “super-political skate punk kid,” Kiser was active in the mid-2000s during the Bush years, but, like many leftist-progressive types, grew a little complacent and took a back seat during Obama's term. After trying to become a music journalist in New York City, Kiser focused on reinventing his career instead, moving out to Seattle and taking coding classes at General Assembly. But Trump's election was a wake-up call, and an opportunity to use his newly developed coding skills.

“I guess I find it funny that the flash point for this project had to be the outcome of the election. But I think that also speaks to the environment we're in right now, culturally,” he said.

Which is the reason he invented WTFJHT—to keep up with the “daily atrocities” coming out of the White House and Congress—and the feeling of confusion that comes with how to stay informed amid all the chaos.

“Like, US national politics suck right now, the guy in the White House sucks right now. I'm upset, and I can't even keep up with what the fuck is going on! And I'm kind of a news



MALCOLM SMITH

TIFFANY CHAN Building bridges at Open Seattle.

junkie. So how could anyone else possibly keep up with this if they're a ‘normal’ person?” he says.

Kiser's original plan was to document Trump's first 100 days in office, as a kind of personal challenge to himself. “I mean, it was definitely supposed to just be a side project,” Kiser says. But as of last week, it's become more than that—Kiser just quit his position as a project manager at a tech start-up to manage WTFJHT full-time.

In his efforts to help people not be so overwhelmed, Kiser admits, he feels... overwhelmed. Not only by the demands of

There are more than enough nerds in this town to get something done when it comes to fighting Trump.

keeping up with WTFJHT's growth, but with the surfeit of civic-engagement-friendly tech products created since the election, that, ironically, are meant to make it *easier* for the average person to get involved.

“There are like a million uncoordinated projects running around. There are so many daily-action-app-text-message-e-mail-website-blogs going around, and all those spreadsheets. Have you *seen* all the spreadsheets?” he asks, exasperated.

Of course, any decent tech resistance staying true to its open-source roots is going to be decentralized—relying on online forums and Slack message boards to plan actions and brainstorm prototypes among large groups of people living in different places. On one hand, you could say it's a plus—giving the movement a flexible, resilient edge (if one system goes down, there are others to quickly take its place), making it not reliant on place and time (like a protest), and giving individuals the power that comes with a sense of anonymity.

Who better than hackers and tech people, for example, to teach us how to wipe our phones before getting searched by a customs

agent, or how to set up our VPN networks when the corporate powers that be come calling after Congress votes to sell our private online information to the highest bidder?

But the fragmentation of a base always comes with a price—in this case, it's the silos that come with trying to build savvy tech solutions in a bubble.

"So I'm a tech person, and I'm good at this thing, and I want to do something, so I decide I'm going to make a web app or whatever, or get some data, or build this experience. And I think what's missing is a connection back to people. What do people actually want? What's the problem we are actually solving?" Kiser asks.

Takao Yamato also agrees, saying engineers need to connect with activists to build accurate "user stories" around their immediate needs.

"I think the tech and the start-up community will be most effective within the activist community," he says. "Smaller organizations, which have really narrowly tailored needs that can be met by tools built in a weekend that can dramatically change their work."

It's clear that the tech resistance, whatever it is, needs to put down roots with the grassroots communities leading the charge against Trump or all those well-intentioned civic good projects will go the way of Apple's G4 cube, Ello (remember them?), or Microsoft's doomed media player, Zune.

"I think it's a really big miss on our part," Kiser says. "We should be aligning people who want to build digital products with people who have real experience organizing communities. And it's like, how do you find them? Where are all the organizers for all of this?"

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One of those organizers may be Tiffany Chan. She's young, motivated, and eager to build bridges between the tech world and many of the communities she supports as a grassroots community organizer. Chan has recently joined the leadership team at Open Seattle—another group, like Data for Good, that builds technology-focused projects and "prototype solutions" for local civic issues.

The Open Seattle meetings take place at Socrata, a company that provides cloud-based data visualization and analysis tools for working with government data. The well-lit, carpeted hallways are lined with top-notch Mac desktops and busy-looking whiteboards. The space has the slick hipster playfulness of your typical tech company; in the lounge, there's a full kitchen, a fancy coffee maker, an entire shelf with an almost obscene variety of hot sauces, and a basket full of rubber duckies and other toys set up on a long stainless-steel table.

Chan was invited to join Open Seattle through her environmental and racial-justice work—she liked the concept of civic engagement, so she went to a meeting.

"And for me," she says, "I was just wondering like, who was in the room? Because as a community organizer, one of the things you always look out for is 'What is being asked? What's the goal?' I saw a lot of tech people, and their intent was good. I heard a pitch about homelessness, which was cool, but there wasn't really anybody from the homeless community there. I didn't really see any direct connection to the people they were trying to help."

It solidified Chan's resolve to connect eager-to-help tech workers with the communities they live in—and, ironically, push out of town when they gentrify a neighborhood. But Chan insists it's important to "take ▶

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◀into account the individual actions, but also the institutional, systemic ones." For example, she says, she drives a car sometimes, but she opposes the oil industry.

"The reality is that we live in a system that's oppressive. So finding ways to collaborate together, to ally, I feel like that's my approach to dismantling it," Chan explains. "And I believe there's room for everybody in the movement."

As a lifelong resident of Beacon Hill, Chan has seen that gentrification firsthand. "But so far," she says, "we still know all of our neighbors, luckily." When she was a teenager, Chan was bused to Roosevelt High School in the North End as part of an exchange program. She volunteered at the Woodland Park Zoo and started hearing about environmentalism and sustainability, "which just created a different perspective and lens for looking at things."

"The problem with this industry," explains Raine Dargis, "is that there are too many introverts. We need extroverts to organize a protest."

She got involved in environmental-justice work, first at the zoo and then for Earth Corps. Right now, she's working with Facebook to organize a hackathon for the environment on April 28. In her work, she wants to invite tech workers to collaborate, while also making sure they confront their privilege. At Open Seattle, for example, she brought in food from businesses owned by people of color to replace the usual boxes of pizza.

"Because one thing I find in the tech community is that certain things are always just kind of done, like little magical elves or owls come in, and the free sodas are always stocked and the floors are always magically clean," she says. "And I was like, 'Yeah, those are people doing that work for you.' And I think with grassroots organizing, it's always *us* doing that work. We don't have free food all the time."

Chan has had a lot of "tough conversations" about race and privilege, and her advice for tech workers who want to help is simple: Show up. "Not only do we then have the emotions and the passion behind the movement, but also the data and the information to make our arguments and actions more objective." Resistance-minded tech products, Chan says, should be designed around real-life experiences. "I think pairing those two things makes our movement to resist the Trump era that much stronger."

The March for Science on Saturday, April 22, was a chance to do just that: In Seattle, thousands of scientists, techies, and concerned citizens showed up to protest the Trump administration's growing siege on the EPA, its refusal to acknowledge climate-change data, and the funding cuts for research programs.

"You know things are serious," one sign said, "when the introverts arrive." ■



NATE GOWDY

DAY 2 Millions around the world join the Women's March.

100 DAYS OF THE Resistance

FROM THE WOMEN'S MARCH TO ROGUE TWITTER ACCOUNTS, THE RESISTANCE TO TRUMP GETS STRONGER EVERY DAY

BY STRANGER STAFF

Day 1 More people seem to protest than attend Donald Trump's inauguration. The stands in DC, normally filled with fans, are eerily empty. A limo is set on fire. Also: White nationalist Richard Spencer is punched during an interview near the inauguration.

Day 2 More than three million people wear pussy hats and attend the Women's Marches around the world. In Seattle, 175,000 people march, the biggest protest in the history of the city.

Day 3 The euphoria of the previous day has dwindled. People realize that Trump is actually fucking president. They start drinking all the beer in the house until they've finished that and then move on to the whiskey.

Day 4 White House staffers begin leaking to the press.

Day 5 For the past few days, a mysterious pirate-radio broadcast has been interrupting radio signals across the country—an oldies station in Texas, a community radio station in Kentucky, and others in Indiana and South Carolina, including local Voice of Vashon's 101.9 FM—airing (the uncensored version of) YG and Nipsey Hussle's "Fuck Donald Trump" continuously on repeat.

Day 6 Six days in. Drinking all the vodka in the universe.

Day 7 @RoguePOTUSStaff, an anonymous Twitter account claiming to be "the unofficial resistance team inside the White House" sends its first tweet: "Pres. Trump is already making waves at the office. Wants to be 'the President who will be remembered as a King.' His words, not ours."

Day 8 Dozens more "rogue" accounts show up on Twitter, people somehow believe they are all real, Twitter becomes an even more insufferable website than it already was.

Day 9 Fueled by rage (and possibly by post-inauguration binge drinking), more than 3,000 protesters demonstrate at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport after six people were detained in response to Trump's first executive order, which sought to ban refugees and immigrants from Iraq, Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen—all Muslim-majority countries—from coming into the United States.

Day 10 Amid protests over Trump's travel ban,

the American Civil Liberties Union announces that it received a record \$24 million in donations over a single weekend. In just January alone, the organization saw a 1,900 percent increase in donations from the same month in 2016.

Day 11 Washington becomes the first state to sue Trump over the Muslim-majority country travel ban, arguing it's unconstitutional. In doing this, Washington State attorney general Bob Ferguson becomes a national heartthrob.

Day 12 It has been only 12 days of the Trump presidency, and everyone we know has aged 1,000 years.

Day 13 Everyone is talking about the Budweiser pro-immigration ad. Set in the 19th century, it has a young German man arriving in the US. He gets yelled at by drunk Americans, who want him to go back to his country. He doesn't listen to them and instead settles in the heartland and starts a brewery that will grow into a massive corporation that creates lots of American jobs. The commercial made it clear that corporate America does not like the Muslim ban.

Day 14 Utah congressman Jason Chaffetz's proposed bill HR 621—which aimed to sell off 3.3 million acres of federally-owned land—is withdrawn due to public outcry and backlash from hunters, ►

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Day 15 Washington proves that we aren't going to take any unconstitutional bullshit when Seattle-based US District judge James Robart grants Washington attorney general Bob Ferguson's request for a temporary restraining order against Trump's (first) Muslim-nation travel ban, prohibiting federal employees from enforcing it and spurring collective 'Fuck yeahs!' and high-fives around the nation.

Day 16 Former Chumbawamba member Danbert Nobacon—now living in Twisp, Washington—pens an anti-Trump song titled "Revolution 9.01" that champions science and disdains the incoming ignoramus-in-chief. It's off his *Stardust to Darwinstuff* album, which you can buy now.

Day 17 The New England Patriots win a big sports game, which, because of tradition, grants them access to the White House. But shortly after their victory, six Patriots players announce they won't be attending the visit for political reasons. When the visit happens in April, more than two dozen players skip.

Also: Melissa McCarthy plays Sean Spicer and it enrages Trump, who more than anything hates that a woman has portrayed his moronic press secretary.

Day 18 Ninety-seven companies—including Apple, Facebook, Microsoft, and Twitter—file an amicus brief opposing Trump's travel ban.

Day 19 Two sterling indie-rock comps from the Northwest—*Battle Hymns* out of Portland and *SAD! A Barsuk Compilation for the ACLU* out of Seattle—come out, earnestly striving to raise funds for organizations (Planned Parenthood and the ACLU) necessary in the fight to thwart Trumpism.

Day 20 Rosie O'Donnell impersonator Sean Spicer says that Nordstrom dropping Ivanka Trump's brand of shoes and handbags is an attack on the president, erasing whatever little respect anyone had left for him.

Day 21 The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals refuses to reinstate Trump's travel ban, writing a stinging rebuttal of the idea that the judiciary has no role in mitigating presidential power. Trump tweets: "SEE YOU IN COURT!" to the court.

Day 22 Protesters in DC block newly appointed secretary of education Betsy DeVos from entering a public school. "Shame, shame," they shout as DeVos drives away in a black SUV. No bears were sighted at the demonstration

Day 23 Protesters gather at Cal Anderson Park (and across the country) for an LGBTQ Solidarity Rally after word that an executive order is in the works aiming to allow organizations to use religious beliefs to deny services to gay and transgender people.

Day 24 Seattleites hold the Seattle-est event ever by flocking to Optimism Brewing on Capitol Hill to send Valentine's Day-themed postcards expressing their values to their political representatives.

Day 25 Michael Flynn quits as the national security adviser just before midnight. He had admitted to misleading VP Mike Pence regarding contacts with a Russian envoy.

Day 26 Love is dead, but the Resistance isn't.

Day 27 Victory! A Trump cabinet member goes poof! Andrew Puzder withdraws as labor secretary nominee after Mitch McConnell says the Republicans will withhold support for the CEO of CKE Restaurants (which owns Hardee's and Carl's Jr. fast-food

chains) after Puzder came under fire for allegedly hiring an undocumented immigrant.

Day 28 Across America and in Seattle, workers take the day off for A Day Without an Immigrant. Some restaurants close in solidarity.

Day 29 The White House sends out a very slanted e-mail questionnaire, "Mainstream Media Accountability," about "media bias." Non-Trump supporters fill out the form and troll him.

Day 30 Don Lemon grows balls, stands up to Trump defender/commentator Paris Dennard, tells him to shut it on referring to reporting on Trump and Mar-a-Lago as "fake news."

Day 31 Nation realizes it's barely been a month since Trump was inaugurated. Doesn't get out of bed.

Day 32 Milo Yiannopoulos is booted from his keynote speech at the Conservative Political Action Conference. Old interviews on YouTube resurface of him talking about how he thinks sex between older men and younger boys is A-okay. Cue sudden conservative outrage.

Day 33 *Stranger* staffers pick at the stale leftovers of Heidi Groover's birthday sheet cake, which had Alex Jones's (of *Infowars*) face printed on it. He was crying.

Also: Milo Yiannopoulos resigns as editor of Breitbart. Other conservatives, including Richard Spencer, have turned on him, deciding that racist and sexist remarks are fine, but man-boy love is a bridge too far. Milo goes into exile.

Day 34 The *Washington Post* has no chill and changes its motto to "Democracy Dies in Darkness."

Day 35 Trump gives his first address to Congress to some fanfare, but Lindsey Graham says Trump's draconian budget cuts will be DOA.

Also: In response to Congressman Dave Reichert's (WA-8) failure to hold public meetings for his constituents, silver-haired boomers and youthful residents of the district hold the first of many protests outside Reichert's Issaquah office. A mandola player leads the crowd of 100 in song: "Hangin' around his office in town, / waitin' for my congressman. / Just wanted to tell him my concerns, / what I want from Washington. But I can tell you now, Dave's not here, / he sure don't want to listen to me."

Day 36 Leaked details of the Republicans' Obamacare replacement plan reveal that said plan would cover fewer people, despite Trump's promise that, somehow, everybody would have insurance. This foreshadows weeks of town-hall meetings with angry constituents who need Obamacare to, you know, live.

Day 37 Even Fox News anchor Shepard Smith belatedly realizes that the administration his network elected into office is dangerously incompetent, or incompetently dangerous. After White House press secretary Sean Spicer bars CNN, Buzzfeed, Politico, the Hill, the BBC, and the *LA Times* from a White House press gaggle, Smith defends CNN on air.

Day 38 During the Oscars, the *New York Times* runs an ad titled "The Truth Is Hard." Also, some celebs air their feelings about the ad's target audience, a man who almost certainly watches the ceremony from the comfort of his own bathrobe.

Day 39 Noble defender of civil liberties George W. Bush tells NBC's Matt Lauer that the media is "indispensable to democracy." This from the former president whose administration leaked bad intelligence to the *New York Times*' Judith Miller, who printed said



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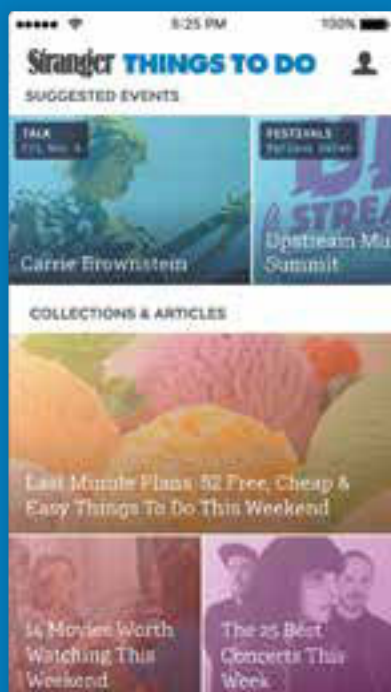




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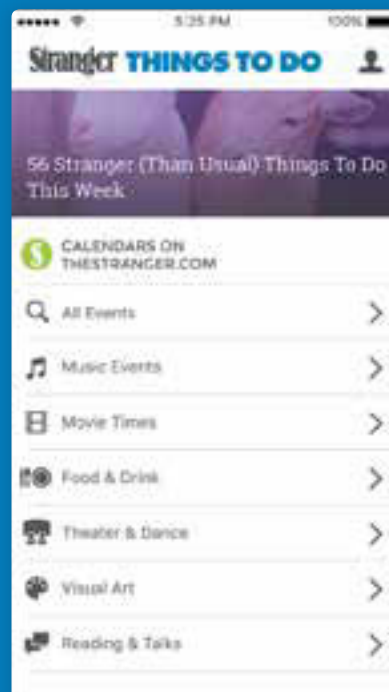
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intelligence, intelligence that would be used to justify the invasion of Iraq. Yoinks!

Day 40 The sixth iteration of #Resist-TrumpTuesday kicks off outside the Federal Building in downtown Seattle. For the first 100 days of Trump's reign, a group of resisters led by local Indivisible chapters hold mid-morning rallies before heading up to the offices of Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell. In groups of four or five, organizers then meet with congressional staff in order to praise the senators for correct action or encourage them to stand firm against Trump's agenda.

Day 41 Sixty-one police chiefs and sheriffs from all over the country—including deep red states Trump won—tell the administration in a letter that they refuse to turn their precincts into mini ICE enforcement agencies.

Day 42 Attorney General Jeff Sessions temporarily joins the Resistance by recusing himself from the investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election. This comes after the revelation that Sessions met with the Russian ambassador during the run-up to the election. Wow, Jeff! Stick it to the man!!!!

Day 43 Briefly considered calling Trump “45,” but didn't want to sully the reputation of those little vinyl records that people care about for some reason.

Day 44 Double-checked the plaque at the base of the Statue of Liberty, mother of exiles, as Trump signs a new executive order banning immigration from six Muslim-majority countries.

Day 45 Responding to Trump's lie about President Obama putting “wiretaps” on his phone, former director of national intelligence James Clapper flatly denies any such monitoring.

Day 46 Nation takes day off work, goes to a spa. Decides they are worth it.

Day 47 Standing in the lobby of Trump Tower, Jeff Bergman reads from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s “Letter from Birmingham Jail.” The arts administrator and inadvertent activist began solitary read-ins at the tower during his lunch hour, and has now formed a group called Learn as Protest and a syllabus. On the list: Rebecca Solnit's *Hope in the Dark*, Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States*, and Hannah Arendt's *The Origins of Totalitarianism*, among others.

Day 48 Organizers with the Women's March dub this International Women's Day “A Day Without a Woman.” Women are encouraged to eschew paid and unpaid work to show the might of the women's workforce. Those who can't afford to take the day off work are encouraged to wear red in solidarity and to support women- and minority-owned businesses. Scores of think pieces are written about the privilege of skipping a day of work.

Day 49 Trumpcare passes through the House Ways and Means Committee. The Resistance begins to seriously worry about its health.

Day 50 One month after Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell silenced Senator Elizabeth Warren's speech criticizing Attorney General Jeff Sessions, impassioned members of the Resistance are still getting “Nevertheless, she persisted” stick-n-poke tattoos.

Day 51 Today is Sydney Brownstone's birthday. She does not cry in public.

Day 52 After Trump moves to purge Obama-era US attorneys, New York's Preet Bharara refuses to submit his resignation. Shortly after, Bharara gets fired.

Day 53 The GOP's replacement for the Affordable Care Act gets eviscerated by the Congressional Budget Office. It finds that 24 million people would lose insurance under the GOP's plan.

Day 54 Rachel Maddow's scoop on Trump's tax returns is met with criticism. Maddow loves a long lead, and people unaccustomed to her show whined about the 25-minute wind-up to the less-than-blockbuster findings, which were from a 2005 return. While more complete than the previous leak from the 1990s, it still didn't reveal the full extent of Trump's possible financial and political entanglements.

Day 55 Trump survives his first Ides of March.

Day 56 A Hawaiian federal judge freezes Trump's travel ban. It is also shut down in Maryland.

Day 57 Northwest Film Forum and film distribution company Abramorama announce “The Seventh Art Stand,” a film series featuring movies from countries affected by the travel ban, to screen in more than 30 venues across the country. Included is *The Salesman* by Asghar Farhadi, an Iranian filmmaker who won an Oscar in February but did not attend, issuing a statement that said: “Dividing the world into the ‘us’ and ‘our enemies’ categories creates fears... Filmmakers can turn their cameras to capture shared human qualities and break stereotypes of various nationalities and religions. They create empathy between us and others. An empathy which we need today more than ever.”

Day 58 Took ecstasy and went dancing at Re-bar.

Day 59 The deputy director of the NSA mocks Trump's claims that England had anything to do with “spying.” Calls the assertion “just crazy.”

Day 60 The left cheers when FBI director James Comey tells the House Intelligence Committee that the FBI has found no evidence of Obama wiretapping the Trump Towers but it is investigating connections between Trump and Russia.

Day 61 Liberals wake up in bed next to the House Freedom Caucus, who vow not to vote for Trumpcare/Ryancare unless more benefits are removed from the bill.

Day 62 Trump and Ryan slash more benefits from the AHCA in an attempt to appease the Freedom Caucus, but they remain unmoved. You cannot kick enough people off of health care to satisfy this recalcitrant bunch of Tea Partiers. Meanwhile, Democrats say the bill has no chance in the Senate. Many credit their new, steely spines to calls from constituents.

Day 63 As a cocktail of one part national resistance and two parts Republican Party infighting threatens to kill the GOP plan to repeal and replace Obamacare, Washington's own congressman Dave Reichert (R-Auburn) appears to get cold feet. Though Reichert is one of few Republicans who has already voted for the bill, his spokesperson tells the *Seattle Times* he's undecided the day before a final vote is expected.

Day 64 Trumpcare/Ryancare is dead. After it becomes clear the bill doesn't have the votes to pass, House leadership pulls it, delivering Trump an embarrassing defeat and saving insurance coverage for millions.

Day 65 An estimated 8,000 people in Moscow protest against corruption and Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, the president of ►

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◀ the Russian Federation. Some commentators even wonder if the man who runs the White House, Putin, is facing his Arab Spring or Green Revolution.

Day 66 In an attempt to shine a light on the shadowy figures visiting Trump at the White House and the “winter White House,” Democrats introduce the adorably titled “Mar-a-Lago Act,” an acronym for “Making Access Records Available to Lead American Government Openness Act.”

Day 67 The Resistance’s target shifts as Jared Kushner becomes president of the United States of America. As head of the “White House Office of American Innovation,” Kushner is suddenly in charge of fixing America’s opioid crisis, dealing with China on trade, brokering peace between Israel and Palestine, overseeing Trump’s internal personnel, and criminal justice reform.

Day 68 Millions briefly consider giving up porn in response to the passage of a bill that allows internet providers to sell a client’s browsing history to advertisers. Though the bill is complete bullshit, it would have been “nice” if lawmakers waited one more day to pass it. ;)

Day 69 Seattle sues Trump. After Attorney General Jeff Sessions blasts “sanctuary” cities and counties, and the Trump administration threatens to strip funding from those jurisdictions, Seattle mayor Ed Murray and the city attorney announce a lawsuit against the Feds. In making their announcement, city leaders focus on Sessions’s claims that cities and counties that label themselves “sanctuaries” for undocumented immigrants make the country less safe. “We know, anecdotally, just from what people themselves have told us, that they don’t want to come forward because they’re afraid, and they know other people in the community who won’t come forward and report crimes because of fear,” Deputy Chief of Police Carmen Best told *The Stranger*. A decision has not yet been reached in the case.

Day 70 Former national security adviser Michael Flynn offers to testify in exchange for immunity. Some people think this is a huge deal.

Day 71 Michael Cox, a Bainbridge Island resident, resigns from the Environmental Protection Agency after serving as a climate-change adviser for the Pacific Northwest region for nearly 30 years. In a letter

to Trump-appointed EPA head Scott Pruitt, Cox cited proposed budget cuts and climate-change denial within the department as his reasons for leaving.

Day 72 The *NYT*’s Nicholas Kristof points out in his excellent post “In Trump Country, Shock at Trump Budget Cuts but Still Loyalty” that there is no real hope for Trump voters, many of whom live in rural areas. They still support him, still believe he is going to return greatness to them and their America, even as he is threatening to deprive these supporters of life-improving and even life-saving federal services. The Resistance needs to be sober to this fact and move on.

Day 73 A poster that says “!NO! iA EX-PULSAR AL REGIMEN DE TRUMP Y PENCE!” is spotted on First Hill.

Day 74 Senate Democrats officially gather the 41 votes needed to filibuster the Supreme Court nomination of Neil Gorsuch, an extremely conservative jurist who consistently favors corporations over human beings in lawsuits.

Day 75 Democratic Socialists of America reaches 20,000 members.

Day 76 Two things today: One, Stephen Bannon, the lord of darkness, gets booted out of the Principals Committee of the US National Security Council. Two, many on the left spend the day panning and blasting a Pepsi ad that shows Kendall Jenner joining a Black Lives Matter-type protest, and then leaving it to give a Pepsi to a cop who is preparing to crack some millennial skulls. The cop accepts the Pepsi, takes a sip, and everything is solved.

Day 77 It’s the first day of class for students of the Resistance School, founded by a group of Harvard graduate students to teach the art of taking a stand against Trump. Classes include how to mobilize your community, communicating political advocacy, and how to sustain the Resistance in the long term. More than 200 students show up for the class on campus, while 15,000 people from 50 states and 20 countries tune in via the livestream.

Day 78 After months of complaints about bots and fake news, Facebook finally does something about it and posts “fake news tips” at the top of its users’ feeds.

Day 79 The radical left and alt-right unite in their opposition to Trump’s strikes on Syria. Well, at least until they meet in the same spot. In another test of our perception of reality, white nationalist Richard Spencer adds a Syrian flag to his Twitter bio and leads an anti-bombing protest in front of the White House. He’s met by antifascists who throw glitter in his face and attempt to pull him out of a cab.

Day 80 Alec Baldwin’s *SNL* skit of Trump meeting his supporters and shitting on them is circulated on social media.

Day 81 About 100 immigrant detainees at Tacoma Northwest Detention Center launch a hunger strike to protest conditions at the lockup, which has seen a surge in inmates since the Trump administration implemented a plan to ramp up deportations. That number would grow to 750 within three days, according to activists.

Day 82 A Kansas special election nearly flips for the Democrats. The close race had Republicans panicking, with Trump and Pence flying in to hold impromptu rallies.

Day 83 The first protest in space (as we know it) occurs when the Autonomous Space Agency Network (ASAN) tapes a printed tweet to a weather balloon. The tweet is based on a remark made by Apollo 14 astronaut Edgar Mitchell, who said: “From out there on the moon, international politics look so petty. You want to grab a politician by the scruff of the neck and drag him a quarter of a million miles out and say, ‘Look at that, you son of a bitch.’”

Day 84 After Seattle filed a lawsuit against the Trump administration, Portland follows suit and sues over withholding grants from sanctuary cities. Portland mayor Ted Wheeler tells the *Oregonian*: “Five years ago, I never would have envisioned myself suing a president of the United States on an issue that I believe is an issue of morality, and yet here we are. It’s very important that we’re taking this action.”

Day 85 Hundreds of Jewish activists hold a Passover “Seder in the Streets” rally in New York City to call attention to the city’s policing policies and to force Mayor Bill de Blasio to “give New Yorkers a real sanctuary city,” in the words of a protester. Six were arrested.

Day 86 Dan Savage’s ITMFA (Impeach the Motherfucker Already) raises \$100,000 for the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, and the International Refugee Assistance Project. Also, people across the US take to the streets in support of the national Tax March movement. They demand to see Trump’s tax returns and for the country to adopt a fairer tax system.

Day 87 We turn off push notifications from @realDonaldTrump.

Day 88 *Teen Vogue*, a newly woke magazine in the age of Trump, reports that Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos’s pick for acting head of the department’s Office for Civil Rights, Candice Jackson, is not only a woman who once claimed that she was discriminated against because she is white but also “dismissed those who have accused Donald Trump of sexual violence as ‘fake victims.’” She is a piece of work.

Day 89 Upstart Jon Ossoff nearly wins his House race in Georgia outright. He’s just short, but he forces a run-off in June, giving Democrats another opening to flip the House.

Day 90 Another one bites the dust: Jason Chaffetz (R-Utah), the “powerful” Republican congressman, announces he won’t run for reelection in 2018. #Winning. Also: Bill O’Reilly gets fired from Fox News.

Day 91 After two hopeful political events, Democrats roll a fat blunt and celebrate on 4/20.

Day 92 Trump is still sucking at the polls with a 39 percent approval rating.

Day 93 Hundreds of thousands of people around the country fill the streets for the March for Science. Trump once called climate change a myth created by China.

Day 94 Badass writer Ijeoma Olou hosts “This Is What Resistance Looks Like” at Northwest Film Forum. Presenting “short films, political talks, and comedy with Seattle movers and shakers like mayoral candidate/activist/poet/boxer Nikkita Oliver and local-politics-related humorist Brett Hamil.”

Day 95 California Democratic US representative Ted Lieu calls Attorney General Jeff Sessions a racist and a liar.

Day 96 After two California jurisdictions sue the Trump administration for withholding funds from sanctuary cities, a US District judge halts Trump’s executive order blocking funding.

Day 97 “Let’s Make America Gay Again!” is held at Coastal Kitchen. “Coastal Kitchen will join in the ‘Decline to Sign’ effort, which exhorts citizens not to support I-1552, a proposed initiative that would impose hardships on trans people trying to use public bathrooms.”

Day 98 The Factory hosts a benefit for Planned Parenthood: “Stand with PP Poster Show” featuring “14 prints by artists who have depicted how the sexual-health organization benefits everyone.”

Day 99 “SLAY: A Hip-hop Party for LGBT+, POC, and Open-Minded People” is held at Chop Suey.

Day 100 Trump is impeached. (Not yet, but we won’t stop trying.) ■

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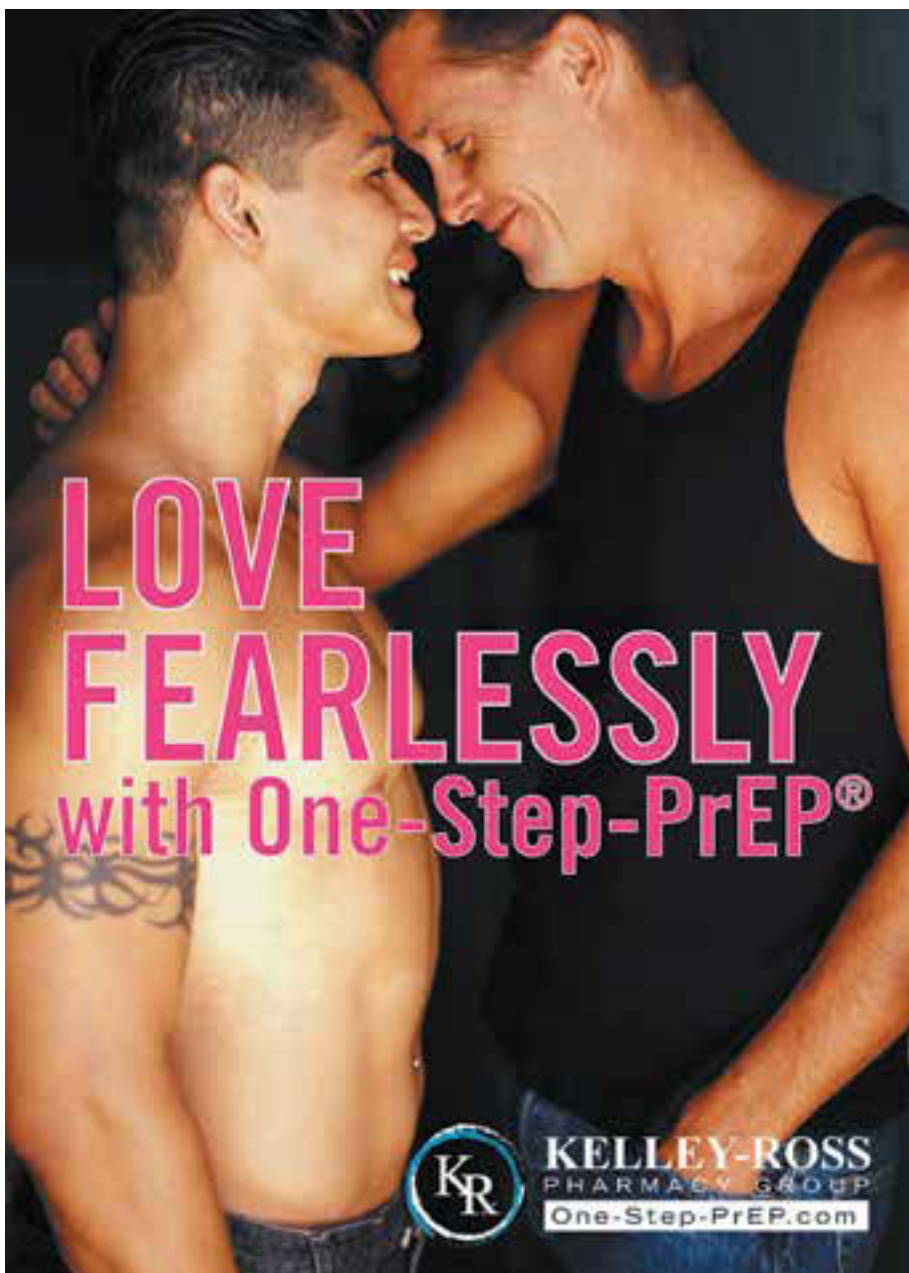


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RALLIES & MARCHES

Annual May Day March for Workers and Immigrant Rights

This workers' strike is a demonstration against the border wall, deportations and indefinite detentions, the increase in military spending, and anti-Muslim discrimination, among other Trump administration priorities. *Judkins Park, Mon May 1, 11 am-7 pm.*

May Day: Veteran Anti-War Formation

Anti-war veterans and activists will gather to remember those lost in combat and demonstrate against war. *Garden of Remembrance, Mon May 1, 8:45-10:45 am.*

People's Climate March

Last week was the March for Science—this event is similar, but a little more specific. They'll protest the Trump administration's "anti climate change, anti environment, anti science stance" and drive home the urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to recognize that climate change is a scientifically accepted concept. *Occidental Park, Sat April 29, 10 am-2 pm, free.*

Seattle Cannabis Freedom March

March for legal access to marijuana, in light of the Trump administration's stance on recreational weed, and of the continued suppression of cannabis in countries around the world. *Westlake Park, Sat May 6, 10 am-7 pm.*

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Communities Rising! Citywide Meeting

Learn about the projects that neighborhood-based Communities Rising groups have been working on (and hear from author, journalist, and publisher Ethan Casey). *Trinity United Methodist Church, Mon May 1, 6:30-8:30 pm.*

IRE Volunteer Fair

"Ignite. Resist. Engage." Get acquainted with more than 20 local organizations—ACLU, Got Green, Tenants Union of Washington, Indivisible North Seattle, Ingersoll Gender Center, and many more—to get an idea of what help you can bring and whom you'd like to volunteer for. *Nathan Hale High School, Sat April 29, 10 am-2 pm.*

Legal Workshop on Immigration Policies

Cut through the panic of today's anti-foreigner climate and learn about your legal rights as immigrants, employees, and employers. Instawork is offering a free workshop over beer and food. Ask your immigration and DACA-related questions, and attorney Manuel "Manny" Francisco Rios will give you answers. *Optimism Brewing, Tues May 2, 5:30 pm, free.*

Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest & Hawaii: Seattle Action Night

Sign up to make phone calls, write letters, and organize for Planned Parenthood. The location will be disclosed when you register. *TBA, Wed April 26, 6-8 pm.*

Represent Yourself

Get a free stamped postcard for contacting local, state, and national politicians with whatever concerns you have. Take the opportunity to register to vote, too. *Third Place Books Ravenna, Sat April 29, 9 am-6 pm, free.*

Representation Day

Represent.Us Seattle, which advocates for the Anti-Corruption Act, doesn't want you to forget that things can be improved on the local level.

They're offering a day of action with a chance to learn about this legislation and a presentation of "Washington State's Corruption Risk Report Card," plus speeches from special guests and entertainment, food, and drink. *City Hall, Sat April 29, 12-3 pm, free.*

Resist/Recharge

Resist/Recharge is *The Stranger's* new event series that will give you a fun, smart, low-pressure place to talk about how to resist the bullshit coming out of Trump's administration. For the first edition, come get a drink and learn about Somos Seattle, an organization that builds community by hosting events for LGBTQ+ Latinx folks. Five storytellers will talk about their own experiences—including what it's like to be undocumented, trans, or to have a mixed-status immigrant family in Trump's America—and attendees will get the chance to ask questions. *Saint John's Bar and Eatery, Tues May 2, 6-8 pm, free.*

Seattle Youth Empowerment Day

Young activists aged 13 to 18 are invited to a free event by MOHAI and NonprofitLeader.org, where they can meet nonprofit representatives and gain experience in community advocacy. *Museum of History & Industry, Sat April 29, 9 am-4:30 pm, free.*

FUNDRAISERS

Keep America Great: A Northwest Immigrant Rights Benefit

Defend immigrant rights at the Blue Moon's benefit show for the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, featuring music from Argan, Catalino Underdog, and The Black Chevys. Next door at Floating Bridge Brewing, from 1-8 pm, \$1 from each pour of their ten beers on tap goes to NWIRP. *Blue Moon Tavern, Sun April 30, 5 pm-midnight, \$10.*

Let's Make America Gay Again! Fundraiser for LGBTQ Allyship

Coastal Kitchen will join in the "Decline to Sign" effort, which exhorts citizens not to support I-1552, a proposed initiative that would impose hardships on trans people trying to use public bathrooms. Order food off the \$15.52 menu; all proceeds will benefit the LGBTQ Allyship organization. The kitchen will also sell drink specials, a portion of which will be donated, too. *Coastal Kitchen, Wed April 26, 3-6 pm.*

Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest & Hawaii: Stand with PP Poster Show

At this Planned Parenthood-centered art show, buy 11-by-14-inch prints by artists who have depicted how the sexual health organization benefits everyone. The proceeds will be used to "fight back and stand up against the forces that aim to destroy what is a widely misunderstood and unbelievably important organization." *The Factory, Thurs April 27, 6-7 pm.*

READINGS & TALKS

Amy Goodman with Denis Moynihan: Democracy Now! Covering the Movements Changing America

Support free speech and journalism while keeping abreast of social developments in America. Amy Goodman, the founder of the independent news source Democracy Now!, will talk about issues from Standing Rock to #BlackLivesMatter to LGBTQ equality. She'll also examine the resistance movement and argue for the indispensability of independent media. *Town Hall, Wed May 10, 7:30-9 pm, \$5.*

Black Lives Matter

Join a conversation with Jamelle Bouie (Slate magazine) and Patrisse Cullors, the woman behind the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag, to hear about racial relations in America, the history of the movement, and their "vision of justice for all." *Pantages Theater, Tacoma, Wed May 3, 7:30 pm, \$24.*

Civic Cocktail: Social Justice & Effective Activism

Guardian columnist, *This American Life* contributor, former *Stranger* staffer, and extremely funny person Lindy West will discuss politics and pop culture with Civic Cocktail host Joni Balter. Then, Washington's Democratic Party chair Tina Podlowski and her Republican counterpart Chris Vance will sit down with journalists Phyllis Fletcher (Northwest News Network) and *The Stranger's* Eli Sanders to talk about influencing politics through grassroots action. *Palace Ballroom, Wed May 3, 5:30-7 pm, \$20-\$25.*

The Fight of our Lives: An Evening with the ACLU's Anthony Romero

The ACLU played a huge part in the defense of immigrants' rights, and as the challenges to civil liberties mount, they will no doubt continue to lead on the legal front. The ACLU's director since 2001, Anthony Romero, will speak about the organization's battle on behalf of "equality, freedom, justice and our democracy." *Moore Theatre, Thurs May 18, 6-9 pm, \$5.*

Good Guys Seattle: Organizing for Non-Organizers in the Era of Trump

The Good Guys at the Barricades ("a training institute, center for mentorship, and hub for folks who are hungry for opportunities in the face of the Trump presidency, but who have not been connected to organizing before") are going on tour around the country to help people get involved in politics and community organizing. This event is their one stop in Seattle, and will help you develop the skills to actively, productively participate in the resistance. *Phinney Center Community Hall, Wed April 26, 6:30-9:30 pm, free.*

Hedrick Smith

Pulitzer Prize-winning author and journalist Hedrick Smith, who has been a reporter and producer since 1962 for, among others, the *New York Times* and *Frontline*, will weigh in on the "political earthquake" that tumbled Trump into power. What does the current Republican regime hold in store for America? Is there any chance they might help improve lower- and middle-class lives? *Town Hall, Mon May 1, 7:30 pm, \$5.*

How Shifting Federal Priorities Impact the Poor

This panel organized by the West Coast Poverty Center and the UW School of Social Work (and featuring speakers from local organizations and governmental offices including Solid Ground, Communities of Color for Climate Justice, and the Seattle Housing Authority) will demonstrate the ways in which federal priorities impact the lives of low-income people in our community. *Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, Tues May 9, 5 pm, free.*

Speaking STEM: Communicating Controversial Science

Important science is not always happily received by the public, and STEM workers don't always have the communications tools to engage. Joy Delyria of the Pacific Science Center and Ariana Coveney, a linguistics and cultural educator, will reveal how to have these difficult conversations and become a better scientific communicator. *Ada's Technical Books, Fri April 28, 7-9 pm, free.*

Undoing Racism in Renton

Learn how the City of Renton and Renton School District are trying to make life better and fairer for people of color in the city. Find out how you can help. *Renton History Museum, Renton, Thurs April 27, 7-8 pm, \$5.*



JOHN OSGOOD



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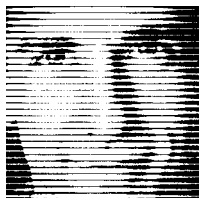
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SAVAGE LOVE

Restless **BY DAN SAVAGE**

I'm a 31-year-old gay male. I've been with my fiancé for three years, and we are getting married in the fall. I've got a question about initiating sex in my sleep—I read somewhere that "sexsomnia" is the "medical" term, but maybe the internet invented that? According to my fiancé, I have initiated or performed some kind of sex act in the middle of the night and then gone right back to sleep. The next day, I don't remember anything. This freaks me out for a couple of reasons: My body doing things without my mind being in control is concerning enough, but it feels kinda rapey, since I doubt I'm capable of hearing "no" in this state. My fiancé doesn't feel that way; he finds it sexy. The other thing—and maybe I shouldn't have read so much Freud and Jung in college—is that I'm worried my body is acting out desires that my conscious mind doesn't want to acknowledge. According to my fiancé, the last time I did stuff in my sleep, I rimmed him and told him how much I wanted to fuck him. Rimming isn't a typical part of our sex life (although I'd like it to be), and my fiancé has never bottomed for anyone (I've topped guys in prior relationships, but in our relationship I've only bottomed). Is my body doing things that my mind won't admit it wants to do? Is there a way to prevent it from happening?

Sexsomnia Hoping Eventually Eager Trysts Stop



JOE NEWTON

tend to make the news—the ones we hear about—are the "unintended criminals" Dr. Bornemann alluded to, i.e., people who've sexually assaulted someone while asleep. Luckily for you, SHEETS, your fiancé is okay with your "primal automatic behaviors."

But you might wanna watch *Sleepwalk with Me*, an autobiographical film by Mike Birbiglia, a comedian with a sleep disorder. Birbiglia wasn't initiating sex in his sleep—he was jumping out of windows. A danger to himself and others, he sought treatment and is no longer jumping out of windows in his sleep. You're not a danger to yourself or others currently, SHEETS, but if you got a new partner or your current partner's feelings about surprise, middle-of-the-night rimjobs were to change, you could be a danger. So you should chat with a doctor now about drugs and/or other interventions.

"My catch-all advice is to read this book called *The Promise of Sleep* by Dr. William C. Dement," said Birbiglia in an e-mail after I shared your letter with him. "He's sort of the father of sleep medicine. He talks about sleep hygiene extensively, i.e., how to have the best night's sleep possible by avoiding TV, eating heavily, drinking, etc., a few hours before bed. I know this isn't exactly an answer to SHEET's specific question, but getting a better night's sleep could probably help him across the board in ways that he doesn't even realize."

I'm a straight married male. My wife has a very close male friend who is in a poly marriage. Recently, my wife said she would like us to be able to date others, have sex, romance, etc., but still remain a married couple. She specifically wants to date her friend. I am not closed off to having a conversation about nonmonogamy, but I struggle with the thought of her having a boyfriend. I want to be able to give this to her, but I feel like my mind and body are not letting me.

Help Understanding Spouse's Blunt And New Demand

"Introducing nonmonogamy into an existing monogamous relationship can be tough, especially when it wasn't your idea," said Cunning Minx, host of the *Polyamory Weekly* podcast, who has been providing poly news, advice, and insights to the masses since 2005 at polyweekly.com. "It's even more stressful when there is a potential partner waiting in the wings! Yikes!"

While Minx is a poly activist and advocate, HUSBAND, she thinks both parties need to be on the same page before going poly. And before you take that step—if you take that step—Minx thinks you need to ask yourself some questions. "HUSBAND should do a fear inventory," said Minx. "What is he afraid of? What would it mean to him if his wife had a boyfriend? What if she wanted to love a woman—does the penis make a difference? If so, why? Then he should sit with his wife and take stock of the health of their current relationship."

You can say no to opening up your marriage, HUSBAND, but your wife may decide she wants out of the marriage if no is the answer—basically, this is a circumstance where one of you is going to have to pay a pretty steep price of admission. Either you'll have to accept polyamory or your wife will have to drop it. There isn't really a middle ground here—or is there?

"It's perfectly acceptable for HUSBAND to self-identify as monogamous while his wife practices polyamory," said Minx. "It's a difficult path, and will require a high level of internal security and self-awareness on his part, but ultimately your self-identity is your own decision." ■

On the *Lovecast*, a deep dive into the world of cuckolding: savagelovecast.com.

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Sexsomnia is a real and sometimes troubling phenomenon, SHEETS, and not something the internet made up like Pizzagate or Sean Spicer. The American Academy of Sleep Medicine says sexsomnia is real—a real clinical condition—but they prefer the fancier, more "medical" sounding name: sleep related abnormal sexual behaviors. Dr. Michel Cramer Bornemann, a lead researcher at Sleep Forensics Associates (sleepforensicsmedicine.org), describes sexsomnia as "sleepwalking-like behaviors that have sexualized attributes." And sleep-rimming your delighted fiancé definitely counts.

"Sexsomnia may be expressed as loud, obscene vocalizations from sleep (that are typically uncharacteristic of the individual while awake), prolonged or violent masturbation, inappropriate touch upon the genitals, buttocks, and breast of a bed partner, and initiation of sexual intercourse," said Dr. Bornemann. "The vast majority of sleep disorders are not reflective of a significant underlying psychiatric condition."

So your unconscious, late-night gropings/initiations/rimmings don't mean you secretly desire to be an ass-eating top. And there's no need to drag poor Sigmund or Carl into this, SHEETS, since you're not doing anything in your sleep that you don't desire to do wide awake. You wanna rim your fiancé, you've topped other guys and would probably like to top this one too—so neither of the examples you cite qualify as desires your "conscious mind doesn't want to acknowledge." (Unless you wrote me in your sleep.) Like all sleep disorders, sexsomnia is just something that happens to a very small number of people, SHEETS, there's no need to endow it with deeper meaning. Take it away, Dr. Bornemann...

"The brain is made of approximately 100 billion neurons, or electrical connections that allow effective communication between brain subunits. As with all electrical systems, errors in transmission may occur—these are called 'switching errors.' In sleep, switching errors may activate previously quiescent areas of the brain while other areas remain off-line. In sleep-related behaviors, it is thought that deep-seated subunits near the sleep-wake generating center become triggered, which activate primal automatic behaviors. Simply stated, electrical switching errors in sleep may unleash the animal that actually lies within us all—sometimes to an extent that may have unintended criminal or forensics implications."

In most cases, sexsomnia will hump a pillow or jerk themselves off. The sexsomnia who

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THINGS TO DO ARTS & CULTURE

All the Events *The Stranger* Suggests This Week

Find the complete calendar of things to do in Seattle at strangerthingstodo.com [strangerTTD](#) [Stranger Things To Do](#)



Patricia Lockwood
Wed May 3 at Elliott Bay Book Company

READINGS & TALKS

Patricia Lockwood

DON'T MISS Patricia Lockwood possesses a wild, formidable, and completely original intelligence. Her two incredible books of poetry (*Balloon Pop Outlaw Black* and *Motherland Fatherland Homelandsexuals*), her criticism ("Is it Work?"), her political writing ("Lost in Trumplandia"), and, yes, her Twitter dot com feed prove she's the smartest kid in class and also the one who tells the best poop jokes. She brings all these powers to bear in her new memoir, *Priestdaddy*, which is all about her deeply bizarre Catholic upbringing "in all the worst cities of the Midwest." Like the sentences in this book, Lockwood is elegant and goofy, her humor brash and sophisticated. I'm only 50 pages in, and already it's the funniest thing I've read all year. If you buy it at the reading, she'll likely sign it with her name and a very

involved cartoon drawing of a barn animal. Go! (Elliott Bay Book Company, Wed May 3, 7 pm, free) **RICH SMITH**

We also recommend...

2017 Grand Slam: Town Hall, Sun April 30, 7 pm, \$10/\$15
African-American Writers' Alliance Reading: Open Books, Sun April 30, 4:30-6 pm, free
Carl Phillips: McCaw Hall, Tues May 2, 7:30 pm, \$15-\$75
Independent Bookstore Day: Various locations, Sat April 29
Ken Bugul: Elliott Bay Book Company, Fri April 28, 5 pm, free
Kristiana Kahakauwila, Lauren K. Alleyne & Jamaica Baldwin: Hugo House First Hill, Fri April 28, 7-9 pm, \$10
Layli Long Soldier with Diane Tomhave: Elliott Bay Book Company, Mon May 1, 7 pm, free
Lemony Snicket and Lisa Brown: Goldfish Ghost: University Temple United Methodist Church, Tues May 2, 7 pm, \$18

Lynda Mapes: Witness Tree: Eagle Harbor Book Company, Bainbridge Island, Thurs April 27, 7:30 pm, free
Raising Lilly Ledbetter: Women Poets Occupy the Workspace: Town Hall, Tues May 2, 7:30 pm, \$5
Sarah Ladipo Manyika: Elliott Bay Book Company, Fri April 28, 7 pm, free

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

ART

Robert Hardgrave: *Pulp*

DON'T MISS If you've been following visual art in Seattle for any length of time, chances are you've come across the work of Robert Hardgrave, even if you didn't know it. He works in a variety of 2-D media—painting, drawing, toner transfers, the leftover "pulp" from those transfers—to create a body of

work that is as colorful and effusive as it is distinctive. Visually, Hardgrave's style hovers somewhere between ancient petroglyphs and something you might see in a high-end skateboard shop, but like most images, these are things that are better seen than described. *Pulp*, an exhibition of new work at Studio E Gallery, is your chance to see them for yourself. (Studio E Gallery, opens Sat April 29, 1-6 pm, free, through June 3)

EMILY POTHAST

We also recommend...

ART EVENTS

Open Studios: Inscape, Sun April 30, 2-8 pm, free
Pentimento: A Scripted Play by Dawn Cerny: Henry Art Gallery, Thurs April 27, 7-8 pm, \$10
Red May: Various locations, April 28-May 28

MUSEUMS

African Renaissances: Seattle Art Museum, Wed-Sun, \$25, through July 16
Chris Maynard: Featherfolio: Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, free, through June 4
Divine Ammunition: The Sculpture of Al Farrow: Bellevue Arts Museum, Wed-Sun, \$12, through May 7
Electric Coffin: Future Machine: Bellevue Arts Museum, Wed-Sun, \$12, through Sept 10
Inye Wokoma: An Elegant Utility: Northwest African American Museum, Wed-Sun, \$7, through May 28
Jacob Lawrence: Eight Studies for the Book of Genesis: Henry Art Gallery, Wed-Sun, \$10, through Oct 1
Jennifer West: Film Is Dead...: Seattle Art Museum, Wed-Sun, \$25, through May 7
Kraft Duntz featuring Dawn Cerny: Fun. No Fun.: Henry Art Gallery, Wed-Sun, \$10, through Sept 10
MOTHA and Chris E. Vargas present: Transhirstory in 99 Objects: Henry Art Gallery, Wed-Sun, \$10, through June 4
Seeing Nature: Landscape Masterworks from the Paul G. Allen Family Collection: Seattle Art Museum, Wed-Sun, \$25, through May 23
Terracotta Warriors of the First Emperor: Pacific Science Center, daily, \$33, through Oct 1
We Are the Ocean: An Indigenous Response to Climate Change: Wing Luke Museum, Tues-Sun, \$15, through Nov 12
Year of Remembrance: Glimpses of a Forever Foreigner: Wing Luke Museum, Tues-Sun, \$15, through Feb 11

GALLERIES

50 Years of Pottery Northwest: Pottery Northwest, Mon-Fri free, through April 28
Alan Lau: Farmer's Market/ Harvesting Peaches From the Other Planet: ArtX-change, Tues-Sat, free, through May 27
All American: Three Centuries of Printmaking by American Immigrant Artists: Davidson Galleries, Tues-Sat, free, through April 29

Continued ►

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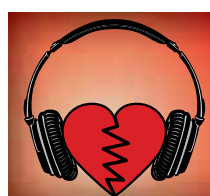
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THINGS TO DO **ARTS & CULTURE**

Amanda McCavour: Room: METHOD, Fri-Sat, free, through June 10

Arturo Artorez: Vermillion, Tues-Sun, free, through May 6

Ayana V. Jackson: Dear Sara: Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, Wed-Sat, free, through May 20

Charles Emerson: Color Meditations: Harris Harvey Gallery, Tues-Sat, free, through April 29

Daniel Carrillo: Studio Visit: Greg Kucera Gallery, Tues-Sat, free, through May 27

Erin Kendig: Forest and The Trees: Ghost Gallery, Wed-Sun, free, through May 7

Joe Rudko: Basic Techniques of Photography: Greg Kucera Gallery, Tues-Sat, free, through May 27

Lauren Iida: How to Trap a Memory: ArtXchange, Tues-Sat, free, through April 29

Michelle de la Vega: The Sugar Project: Bridge Productions, Thurs-Sat, free, through April 29

Minerva Cuevas: Hedreen Gallery, Wed-Fri, free, through May 20

MSHR: Nested Transmuter Cycle: Interstitial, Sat, free, through May 27

PCNW 21st Juried Exhibition: Photographic Center Northwest, Sat-Thurs, free, through June 11

Robert Pruitt: Planetary Survey: Prographica, Tues-Sat, free, through April 29

Stanza: Push/Pull, free, through May 16

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

PERFORMANCE

Cherdonna's Doll's House

DON'T MISS The local powerhouse and "female impersonator impersonator" Cherdonna Shinatra (Jody Kuehner) deconstructs and reconstructs Henrik Ibsen's arguably already feminist classic *A Doll's House*. Will Nora realize that her life doesn't necessarily exist in relation to a man's life, but for real this time? Will Cherdonna bust into the middle of scenes and sing surprisingly relevant pop songs in an operatic voice that make the play more intersectional? Kuehner's work defies divining of any kind. But if she's doing a thing, you go and you see that thing. Those are the rules. Presented by Washington Ensemble Theatre, adapted by Ali Mohamed el-Gasseir and Jody Kuehner, and directed by Ali Mohamed el-Gasseir. (12th Avenue Arts, Fri-Mon, \$25, through May 16) **RICH SMITH**

We also recommend...

Cirque du Soleil: Luzia: Marymoor Park, Redmond, Wed-Sun, \$44-\$135, through May 21

French Kiss: Can Can, Wed-Sun, \$20-\$125, through May 28

Here Lies Love: Seattle Repertory Theatre, Tues-Sun, \$93-\$103, through June 4

La Petite Mort's Anthology of Erotic Esoterica: The Conservatory, Fri April 28, 8 pm, \$23

Lost Falls: Nordo's Culinarium, Thurs-Sat, 8 pm, Sun, 6:30 pm, \$67-\$105, through June 25

Lush Us: Gay City Arts Showcase: Town Hall, Fri April 28, 6 pm, \$25

The Moonshine Revival Tent Presents: Carny Girl: West of Lenin, Sun April 30, 7 pm, \$15, through May 21

Nadeshiko: Center Theater, Thurs-Sun, \$25, through May 6

Ode: West of Lenin, Thurs-Sat, 7:30 pm, Sun, 2 pm, \$25, through May 20

Orlando: Glenn Hughes Penthouse Theater, Thurs-Sat, 7:30 pm, Sun, 2 pm, \$10, through May 7

The Secret Garden: The 5th Avenue Theatre, Tues-Sun, \$29-\$121, through May 6

SH*T GOLD: Founders Theater, Mon May 1, 10 pm, free

There's No Place Like Not Home: An On The Beards Cabaret: Rendezvous, Thurs April 27, 9:30 pm-midnight, \$12, 21+

Wellesley Girl: 18th & Union, April 26-29, 7:30 pm, \$17/\$28

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

FILM

Shungu: The Resilience of a People

DON'T MISS When things get too bad, and all hope is lost—which is the feeling described as despair—we need a poet. Not to make us feel better (that is the job of a pop star), but for the kind of company that only real misery needs. This is Saki Mafundikwa's *Shungu*, a 54-minute documentary about Zimbabwe, a Southern African country that had a great start in the 1980s after declaring independence from the white colonizers, but by the 1990s had morally and economically collapsed. By 2000, hope was dimming. By this decade, there was no hope at all. Mafundikwa is a poet and a graphic artist with a global reputation. His film is personal, lyrical, and sad, like a piece of brokenhearted jazz by Bill Evans. (Northwest Film Forum, Sun April 30, 7:30 pm, \$12) **CHARLES MUDEDE**

We also recommend...

Anime Movie Festival: Cinerama, through May 3, \$16

The Breakfast Club: Central Cinema, April 28-May 1, 7 pm, \$8

Colossal: SIFF Cinema Egyptian & Guild 45th

Equinox Flower: Seattle Art Museum, Thurs April 27, 7:30 pm, \$9, through May 18

Eugene Onegin: Northwest Film Forum, Sat April 29, 8 pm, \$12

The Fate of the Furious: Various locations

Free Fire: Sundance Cinemas

Get Out: Various locations

Gifted: Various locations

Jennifer West: Film Memory: Seattle Art Museum, Tues May 2, 7 pm, free

Karl Marx City: Northwest Film Forum, Fri April 28, 8 pm, \$12

Kedi: Ark Lodge Cinema

Langston Hughes African American Film Festival: Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, April 27-30, \$12/\$90

Logan: Sundance Cinemas

The Lost City of Z: SIFF Cinema Uptown & Sundance Cinemas

NFFTY: National Film Festival for Talented Youth: Various locations, April 27-30, \$25-\$88

Robocop: Central Cinema, April 28-May 3, 9:30 pm, \$8

The Void: Grand Illusion

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

FOOD & DRINK

Bacon and Beer Classic

DON'T MISS The Seattle Bacon and Beer Classic is this weekend. Against their better

THINGS TO DO **ARTS & CULTURE**

judgment, they've made me a judge. I'm thrilled that they allowed me to use a photo of myself drinking Olympia after several hours of skateboarding for a bio image, but I'm more thrilled that out of six judges, I'm one of only two men. Women have fantastic taste in beer, and this event is acknowledging that instead of worshipping at the false altar of goofy beards and beer jocks. Plus it gives you, for the price of a ticket (which is 15 percent off with the code "YUM," BTW), an unlimited amount of bacon and beer. Trump may be waging a war on women nationwide, but here in the Northwest there is still gender equity and cured pork belly and fermented malt beverages and some indication that maybe everything isn't completely fucked. I'll drink to that! (*Safeco Field, Sat April 29, noon-10 pm, \$59-\$125*) **TOBIAS COUGHLIN-BOGUE**

We also recommend...

7th Annual Hama Hama Oyster Rama: Hama Hama Company, Lilliwaup, Sat April 29, 12-6 pm, sold out

Alchemy Grand Opening: Alchemy Bar & Lounge, Fri April 28, 4 pm-1 am

Astronomy on Tap: Peddler Brewing Company, Wed April 26, 7-9 pm, free

Cheese and Meat Festival: McCaw Hall, Sat April 29, 2:30-10 pm, \$55

Flourish: FareStart, Sun April 30, 5 pm, \$550 (wait list)

Keep America Great: A Northwest Immigrant Rights Benefit: Blue Moon Tavern, Sun April 30, 5 pm-midnight, \$10

Keep America Great: A Northwest Immigrant Rights Benefit: Floating Bridge Brewing, Sun April 30, 1-8 pm, free

Machine House Four-Year Anniversary Party: Machine House Brewery, Fri April 28, 5-11 pm, Sat April 29, 12-10 pm, free

New Orleans Party!: Mean Sandwich, Sun April 30, 4-8 pm, free

Sexy Syrah: Salty's on Alki, Thurs April 27, 6-9 pm, \$50/\$65

STEM: Science Uncorked: Pacific Science Center, Fri April 28, 7-10:30 pm, \$45

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com

QUEER

Seattle Gaymers "No Pieces" Gayme Night

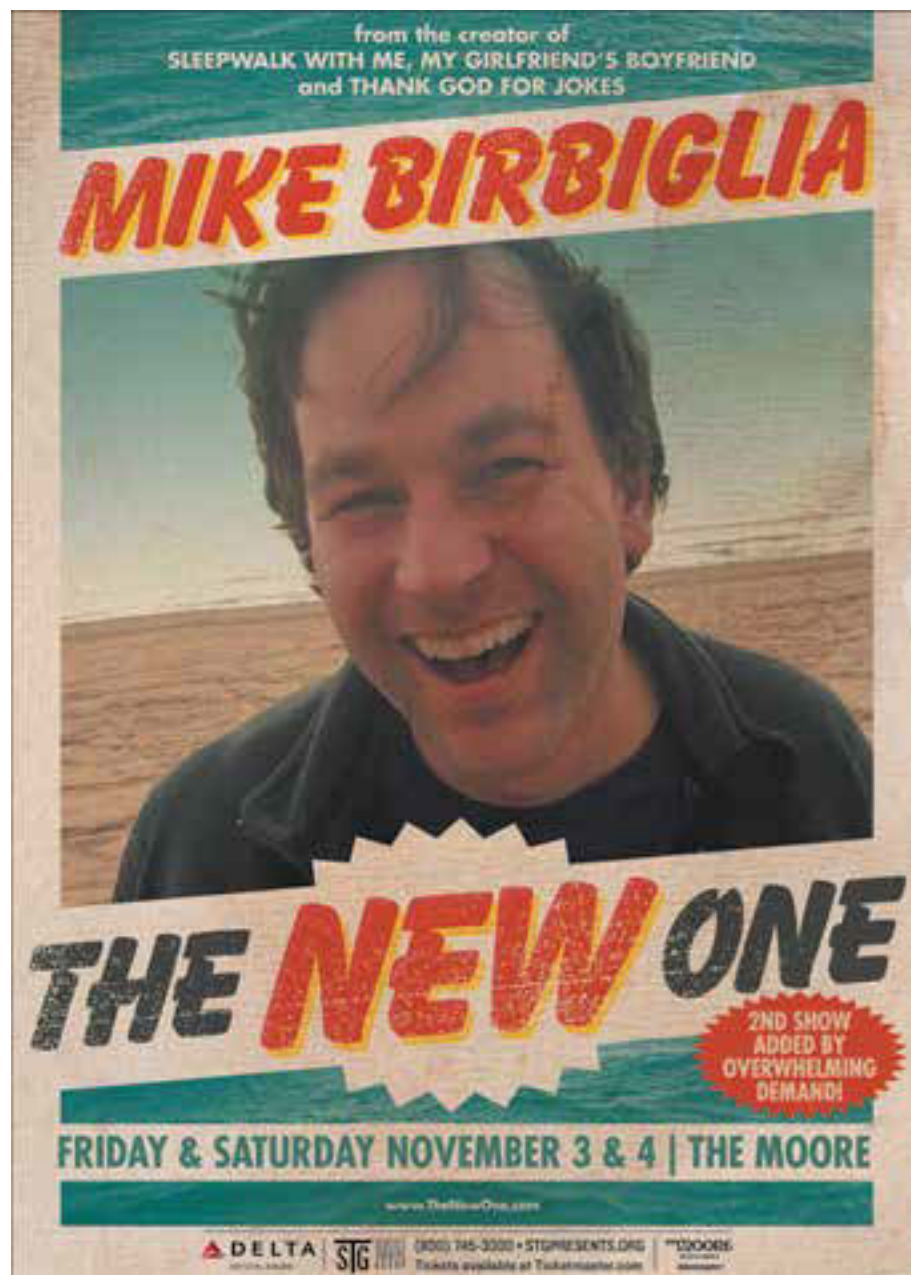
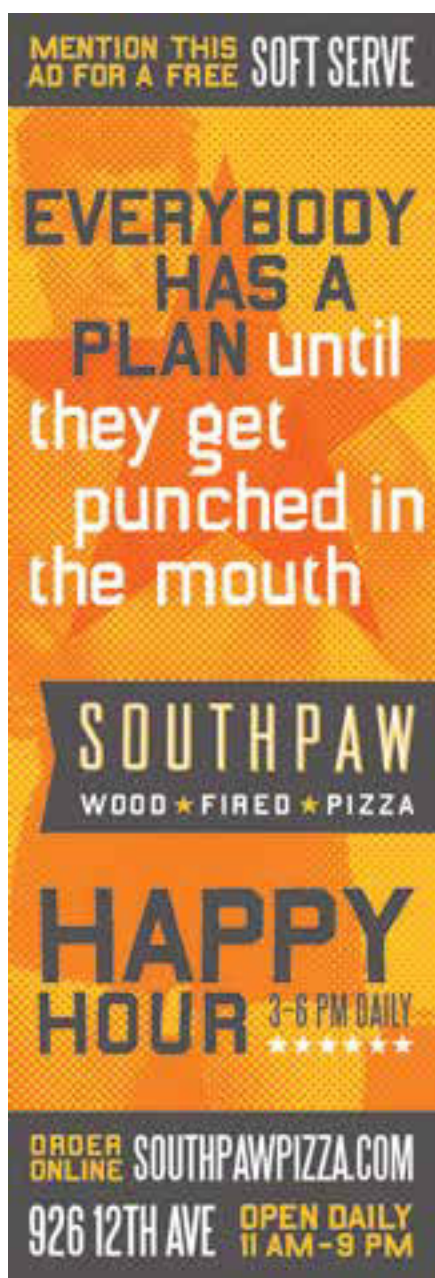
DON'T MISS It's time to kick back once again with some games. This month's gaymer gathering has the theme "No Pieces," which means they'll be highlighting games with no dice, figurines, or cards. (But if you simply **MUST** play some Star Trek Catan, I'm sure nobody will look askance.) As always, Raygun Lounge boasts a hearty selection of drinks and snacks and comics and toys, so you'll be sure to find plenty of stimulation. Newcomers are welcome—just pull up a chair and say hello. Or if you're an introvert, get a beer and study the artwork, and someone will surely wave you over to join them soon enough. (*Raygun Lounge, Thurs April 27, 6:30-9:30 pm, free*) **MATT BAUME**

We also recommend...

Aleksa Manila & Friends: Neighbours, Sat April 29, 7-10 pm, \$10, 21+

Mimosas Cabaret: Unicorn, Sat-Sun, 1 pm, \$25, through May 28, 21+

Complete listings at strangerthingstodo.com



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2017

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THINGS TO DO MUSIC

Noteworthy Shows This Week

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Oh, Rose
Wed April 26
at Sunset

COURTESY OF OH, ROSE

WEDNESDAY 4/26

The Weeknd, Rae Sremmurd, Belly, 6lack

(KeyArena, all ages) I confess, I like the Weeknd. He's like a stouter, low-rent, Canadian version of Michael Jackson, obviously without the decades of talent and experience to back him up, but possessing a similar vocal quality and overarching pop sensibility to his R&B swagger. Plus, he writes songs that are deep and catchy. Both "The Hills" and "Can't Feel My Face"—his two highest charters off 2015's *Beauty Behind the Madness*—reference his latent drug use, the former being a moody, intimate, non-love song focused on his emotional unavailability, the latter a heavily-MJ-influenced dance-floor-ready track that uses love as a metaphor for addiction. Although "I Feel It

Coming"—the single off 2016's *Starboy* that's been saturating mainstream airwaves lately—is surprisingly mundane for being a Daft Punk collab, the title track (also featuring the French electro duo) is a bass-bumping, beat-tastic jam, while his cut with Kendrick Lamar, "Sidewalks," is funky and tight as hell. **LEILANI POLK**

Dweezil Zappa

(Neptune, all ages) Dweezil Zappa released one of the funkiest and multifaceted albums of 2015! It's called *Via Zammata* and it's way rad, to use an 1980s expression. At the Neptune, though, he'll probably bow to the tour title "50 Years of Frank" and play a lot of his father's music. Then again, he might just do whatever the fuck he wants, since he's been into whatever the fuck he wants recently—because

his younger siblings, Ahmet and Diva, started feuding with him over the family trust and legacy. Long story. But you'll get some of it at the show, I daresay. Oh, did I mention Dweezil has been known to play long medleys of '80s hits? **ANDREW HAMLIN**

Oh, Rose; Detective Party; Jenny Creep

(Sunset) Oh, Rose—whose Bandcamp page credits her for "Singinizin and guitarinatin"—sounds full of ideals, and full of want, want rising from aching to fist-shaking, as a given track rises to a dangerous boil. The other musicians play it cool and low, but she always comes through. Detective Agency use a harmonica—sweet! I never hear harmonica in pop anymore. Their sound is sweet, smooth, reverby, like a gentler Primitives. Jenny Creep offer more wry

female vocals, as two singers compare notes, both musical and gossip-wise over restless toiling drums and a violin rubbery and supple all the way down at the bottom of the mix. I don't know that I'd have mixed the drums and the bass above the violin, but the more I listen, the more I smile. **ANDREW HAMLIN**

THURSDAY 4/27

Califone, Tara Jane O'Neil, Rachel Blumberg, Wynne Greenwood

(Gallery 1412, all ages) This expertly assembled indie-folk bill should stir feelings of intense introspection in a mandatory sit-down, intimate setting at Gallery 1412. Since the beginning of her career in the early 1990s, Tara Jane O'Neil has traversed varied indie-rock territory. *Continued* ►

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THINGS TO DO MUSIC

playing bass with post-hardcore Slint contemporaries Rodan and later in the Sonora Pine with ex-Lungfish guitarist Sean Meadows. Her solo work is delivered with a breathy and celestial lilt; O'Neil casts an inescapably relaxing web of sad song spells with a purely ethereal presence. Combining elements of traditional Americana with avant-garde experimentation, homespun-folk standbys Califone have carved a lasting impression in indie folk's crowded landscape since the early 2000s. This is not your everyday indie-folk show, and there's something for even the most acoustic-guitar-averse. **BRITTNI FULLER**

Scarves, On Drugs, Crittè, Sunday Night Heat

(Vera, all ages) Seattle trio Scarves' new album, *Mall Goths*, consists of 10 tracks "depicting characters along the I-5 corridor between Bellingham, Washington, and Portland, Oregon. Struggling against their reality, desperate for rebellion, yet inextricably stuck, they fall in love in one city and break up in the next." Surely you can relate. Musically, *Mall Goths* is bright-orange rock with oddly sing-along-able choruses, sung by an androgynous-sounding dude who strikes me as the rock equivalent of Porter Ray, in terms of vocal timbre. The songs surge and soar on the wings of peculiar chord progressions, which music like this demands in order to avoid coming off as humdrum. **DAVE SEGAL**

FRIDAY 4/28

Laura Marling, Valley Queen

(Showbox) On the basis of recent recordings, it would be easy to mistake Mercury Prize nominee Laura Marling for an American, but

the British singer-songwriter is simply drawn to Southern cities, like Nashville, and country artists, like Dolly Parton. *Semper Femina*, her sixth studio album, draws on folk and pop influences from Nick Drake to Joni Mitchell, but if unruffled defines her demeanor, frustration roils beneath the surface, especially on "Wild Fire," where she warns gas-lighters to step off. Unlike Marling, a veteran at 27, LA quartet Valley Queen are just getting started. Their new EP, *Destroyer*, fuses the torch and twang of Linda Ronstadt with the sturdy musculature of Heart. Natalie Carol is the kind of commanding frontwoman Marling has been championing for years. **KATHY FENNESSY**

Lupe Fiasco

(Neptune, all ages) Back in 2006, things were only looking up for rapper Lupe Fiasco. Signed to Atlantic Records by Jay Z and hyped by Kanye West as the next Kanye West, Chicago's Fiasco rose from regional threat to national concern off the strength of that year's *Food & Liquor* and a slew of singles that included the still-banging "Kick, Push." His actual career has been considerably bumpier than his initial rollout. Over the past decade, he's quit music multiple times—including as recently as last December—and publicly wrestled with his inner demons and major-label contract, but he keeps coming back with fire, and his fans have stuck with him through the highs and lows. Speaking of highs, this February saw him release the career highlight *Drogas Light*, which has been met with praise by critics and longtime fans alike. Expect a reenergized Lupe Fiasco to step up to the Neptune stage and put on his high-energy show. **NICK ZURKO**

Research: UMFANG, Kristen Dalen, Goetic Mirror

(Kremwerk) Coleader of the female- and genderqueer-empowering crew Discwoman, UMFANG (aka Brooklyn DJ/producer Emma Burgess-Olson) is one of the most interesting young techno artists in America. Based on the strength of her unconventional, melodic, and minimal techno releases on Vancouver's respected 1080p label, UMFANG was one of the standouts of last year's inaugural TUF Fest in Seattle. She returns to town previewing her upcoming album on Ninja Tune subsidiary Technicolour, *Symbolic Use of Light*, which displays UMFANG's deft fusing of brainy and sensual elements within a techno context. Oddly, the lead track, "Weight," comes off more like Burial's profoundly gothic, morose, and desolate rim-shot symphonies than standard four-on-the-floor business. Whatever the case, we're in for a strange treat from a rising star and catalyst for positive change in a male-dominated genre. **DAVE SEGAL**

Pond, Kirin J. Callahan

(Neumos) Aussie-brewed Pond are the red-headed stepchild of Tame Impala, featuring former and current members of that band (Nick Allbrook and Jay Watson, respectively), and churning out sounds that rely much more heavily on psychedelic experimentation, coated in elements of glam, garage, space, electro, and acid-washed pop and rock, and delivered in a looser and less digestible way than Tame Impala, but definitely more interesting and novel. According to Allbrook, upcoming seventh LP *The Weather* is "a concept album, not completely about Perth, but focusing on all the weird contradictory things that make up a lot of colonial cities around

the world." Its eponymous single is a lethargic astral projection full of swirling and shimmering synthesizers, while the fuzzy layered instrumental washes and driving propulsion of "Sweep Me Off My Feet" come studded with tinkling percussion and dreamy, soaring vocals. **LEILANI POLK**

Sofi Tukker, LP Giobbi

(Crocodile, all ages) If you suffer from seasonal affective disorder (Seattle's only mood-ring color), go see Sofi Tukker. The electro-pop and dance-music über-duo are fans of the overplayed palm leaf and toucan collage aesthetic, but for them it works, as they deftly link Brazilian energy, cumbia, and dancehall beats, and soothing, sultry vocals for a lush club sound (yes, I know music writers overuse that term, but it really applies). Even with the current oversaturation of certain island styles in music, especially in pop and electronica, it's still extremely worth it to noodle around in a bunch of poolside soundscapes, mostly because it will be the only thing around here dragging your sad, tired ass into the warmer months. **KIM SELLING**

Kid Leather, Monsterwatch, Silas Blak, Wzdumb, DJ Able Fader

(Lo-Fi) I'm showing my age, but THIS lineup reminds me of how underground shows were once places for challenging our thinking and tastes by purposely mixing various and differing music styles. Like, before they became so codified and arranged by promoters looking to maximize profits! As for the show tonight, we're getting local contemporary R&B and hip-hop heat from Silas Blak, the duo Peace and Red Velvet, and Wzdumb in Lo-Fi's front room, while in the back room Shit Ghost's

Continued ►



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KIWANUKA**

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RODRIGO Y GABRIELA

with RYAN SHERIDAN

MAY 24 | 8:00PM

BUSH

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4/28 FRIDAY		<i>Shobox Presents::</i> Sofi Tukker LP Giobbi <i>All ages</i>				
4/29 SATURDAY		<i>The Crocodile and ReignCity Present::</i> Devin The Dude "Acoustic Levitation Tour" Jarv Dee, All Star Opera <i>21 and over</i>				
4/30 SUNDAY		<i>The Crocodile Presents::</i> Porcelain Raft @ The Sunset <i>21 and over</i>				
5/02 TUESDAY		<i>Showbox Presents::</i> Lewis Watson <i>All ages</i>				
5/03 WEDNESDAY		<i>Mike Thrasher Presents::</i> Murs Homegrown Psychotherapy, Con-Crete <i>All ages</i>				
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THINGS TO DO MUSIC

experimental sounds promise to bring “the most whimsical of the human mind to life,” the blazing scuzzy, noisy stomp of Kid Leather (tonight is the release party for their new album, *Soft Machine*), and sludge punk from Monsterwatch. **MIKE NIPPER**

SATURDAY 4/29

Asphyx, Extremity, Hissing, Fetid, Mortiferum

(Highline) If death metal has a unique and valuable function, it's that the music can create a space for listeners to contemplate their own mortality. When people ponder death, they often think of what that experience would be like from their own perspective. Slower death-metal groups such as Asphyx invite people to think about corporeal death. Singer Martin Van Drunen, in his pass-me-another-Parliament rasp, talks about the decaying of organic flesh. Morbid? Yes. And a bit much. But Asphyx never forget they are also a rock band, and their existential musings come delivered with mosh-pit momentum. Asphyx rarely tour the United States and have already broken up and re-formed once. Their mortuary gospel may not be spoken again in Seattle. **JOSEPH SCHAFER**

SUNDAY 4/30

Trap Them, Call of the Void, Heiress, Wake of Humanity

(Highline) Music should be fun. But hardcore often grapples with balancing its grievous nature against its entertainment value. No wonder the pop positivity of Gorilla Biscuits made them one of the biggest bands of the genre. But while earnest nihilism might not be

everyone's idea of a good time, the emotional (and sometimes physical) bloodletting of a dark hardcore band like Trap Them can be far more gripping than the mosh-centric party vibes of bigger acts. There will be no sing-alongs tonight, no boogie-board crowd-surfing, and no smiling onstage. Instead, Trap Them will spew out their venomous hybrid of d-beat, grindcore, and early Swedish death metal while singer Ryan McKenney roars over acts of self-flagellation. If you want fun, go to a Turnstile show. If you want therapy, this is your night. **BRIAN COOK**

MONDAY 5/1

Fabulous Downey Brothers, Macula Dog, Modal Zork, S1UGS

(Chop Suey) Most music that's explicitly “fun” sounds like tacky rubbish and is a tiresome chore to endure. However, Seattle's Fabulous Downey Brothers can pull off sonic goofiness with rare aplomb. They're obviously hugely skilled players who just happen to have a predilection for novelty-cartoonish tones and spazzy dynamics, not unlike Devo, Oingo Boingo, or early XTC. But within those parameters, FDB compose naggingly catchy tunes that usually come bundled with several surprises per minute. It's a neat trick that they execute over and over. Portland's Modal Zork come off as a more blatantly synth-oriented take on Fab Downey Bros' style, like some bizarre hybrid of the Normal and the Residents. **DAVE SEGAL**

TUESDAY 5/2

E-40

(Showbox, all ages) Godfather of the bass-heavy hyphy subgenre of rap and Bay Area



ROB NORRIS

legend E-40 (né Earl Stevens) has been in the game for decades and still puts on a better show than 98 percent of other rappers, making it his blood-bound duty to tear the roof down. Despite starting in the late 1980s, E-40 didn't see a genuine national hit until 2006, when “Tell Me When to Go” introduced America to hyphy's harmonic low-end stylings. More

than a decade since then, Stevens has yet to score another big hit, but he still enjoys living-icon status in the rap scene while continuing to release in-demand mixtapes and oversee his son Droop-E's career, alongside business investments that include stock in Microsoft. If you've never seen Earl Stevens in the flesh and love rap music, then do yourself a massive favor and buy a ticket already. **NICK ZURKO**

HIGHLINE

Thursday, April 27
WEEDEATER
The Obsessed
Primitive Man
Fatso Jeston
Karma To Burn
8 PM \$18 - \$20

Friday, April 28
SIGNAL LOST
Deathraid
Babylon
9 PM \$8 - \$10

Saturday, April 29
ASPHYX
Extremity
Hissing
Fetid, Mortiferum
8 PM \$17 - \$20

Sunday, April 30
TRAP THEM
Call Of The Void
Heiress, Wake Of Humanity
9 PM \$13 - \$15

Friday, May 5
SAZERAC ORCHESTRA
Butterflies of Death
9 PM \$10 - \$12

Saturday, May 6
Mechanism & Musikwerks Presents:
VELVET ACID CHRIST
DSTR
9 PM \$15 - \$20

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COLUMBIA CITY THEATER

THURSDAY, APRIL 27
KARAOKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
KEEP ON SINGING!

FRIDAY, APRIL 28
THE GRIOT PARTY

SATURDAY, APRIL 29
MONQUI PRESENTS
SONDRE LERCHE

SUNDAY, APRIL 30
SMALL WORLD
TWO SHOWS: 1PM & 7PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3
SHOWBOX PRESENTS
DANA GOULD

THURSDAY, MAY 4
KARAOKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
KEEP ON SINGING!

IN THE BOURBON BAR
EVERY TUES: TUESDAY NIGHT MUSIC CLUB
EVERY WED: ABSOLUTE KARAOKE
EVERY THURS: CRASH THE GLASS
4/28 SUPA SONIC SOUL SISTAH'S
4/29 NICK DRUMMOND
& SPENCER GLENN BAND
5/5 AL HOLBROOK

COMING UP
5/5 THADAYUS & THE ELECTROFUNKS
5/6 DEBACLE FEST 2017
5/11 KEEP ON SINGING!
5/12 CYRILLE GOSSELIN
5/13 GOLDNWOLF
5/14 RONNDA CADLE
5/19 CATIE CURTIS
5/20 STRIPPED SCREW BURLESQUE
5/21 HOLLY NEAR
5/23 SMINO
5/26 ALL GAS NO BRAKES

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Lo-Fi

PERFORMANCE GALLERY

Thu 4/27 9pm	CURSE, Rile, Power Skeleton, Guest \$8
Fri 4/28 8pm	KID LEATHER, Monsterwatch, Frontroom—Silas, Wizumb DJ Able Fader
Sat 4/29 9pm	HOBOSSEXUAL, Spinning Whips, Dead Sonics \$8/10
Sun 4/30 8pm	YARDSSS, Blue Sky Black, Party Store
Wed 5/3 9pm	LOVING TOUCH— Vinyl Centric House DJ Sets \$5
Thu 5/4 9pm	LADYBUGS, Toecutter
Fri 5/5 9pm	DUG—RARE FUNK DANCE PARTY \$7

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WED 4/26 7PM
THE DIRTBALL
(FROM KOTTONMOUTH KINGS)
SEVERED THE IMPALER / TOXIC LEAF /
DYLAN THE KID / MOTA MOUTH JONES

FRI 4/29 9PM 18+
MARBLE PRODUCTIONS
18 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

MON 5/8 7PM
KISW METAL SHOP PRES...
GRUESOME
VIOLENT HALLUCINATIONS / KA'ATUN /
OXYGEN DESTROYER

5/11 8PM 21 & OVER
GIRLS NIGHT OUT THE SHOW

5/15 6:30PM
AFFIANCE
CONVICTIONS / VERSUS / TIME SPENT

5/16 7PM
SHINING
REVENGE / WOLVHAMMER / WYTHRE /
SACRAMENT OV IMPURITY

THU 5/18 6:30PM 21 & OVER
Y & T
KILLER BEE (FROM SWEDEN)
DARKHORSE / ONE GUN SHY

5/25 7P @ THE SHOWBOX
YNGWIE MALMSTEEN
WORLD ON FIRE TOUR 2017 w/ THE RASKINS /
MECHANISM / KILLIAN MAHAFFEY

UP AND COMING: 5/9 DEAD HORSE TRAUMA 5/11 GIRLS
NIGHT OUT 5/20 EVERGREY / SEVEN KINGDOMS / NEED
/ ASCENDIA / PROZACK STAPLE / CONVERGENCE 5/22
XANDRIA / KOBRA & THE LOTUS / ONCE HUMAN / WHAT THOU
WILT 5/23 ARKONA W/ SIRENA / MINDMAZE / GRAVESHADOW
/ BLOOD & THUNDER 5/24 DESTRUCTION / WARBRINGER /
JUNGLE ROT / HELLBENDER / DEVILATION / RELIGICIDE

Re-bar
Theater & Nightclub
APRIL & MAY 2017

THU 4/27 // 9 pm LIVE ELECTRONIC
AUDIOPHILE
featuring Nova Tron, Ari Joshua,
and Kent Halvorsen // \$5

FRI 4/28 // 10 pm 90s Era House/Techno
1999: 90s Throwback
Featuring Joey Webb and JameServin.
With Trinitron, David Lowe,
and Julie Herrera // \$7

SAT 4/29 // 10 pm All Music
JOE BELLINGHAM
presents **TREMULANT**
Featuring Releasing Gravity (Live)
With Kafka (Live) and Anna Langley // \$15

SUN 4/30 // 10 pm HOUSE MUSIC
FLAMMABLE
West Coast's longest running house night,
with Wesley Holmes and Brian Lyons // \$10

THEATER

SAT 4/29 // 7 pm // \$25 Gen/ \$45 VIP
SINFUL SISTERS presents
7 DEADLY SINS Burlesque
Hosted by Countess Vibratia

MON 5/1 // 7 pm // \$15
KEON VOLT PRICE
presents **CHOCOLATE DRIZZLE**
Seattle's only all African American
Variety show and Revue.

TUE 5/2 // 7 pm
SEATTLE POETRY SLAM
Seattle's Longest Running Weekly Show! A
competition of performance poets. // \$5

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FRI - SUN: 3PM TO 2AM
PONYSEATTLE.COM

THINGS TO DO MUSIC

The Best of the Rest of the Shows This Week

strangerthingstodo.com @SEAshtows

★ = Recommended A = All Ages

WED 4/26

LIVE MUSIC

CENTRAL SALOON Mike Hindert & The Wolf, 8 pm, \$5/\$8

CROCODILE Joe Hertler & The Rainbow Seekers, 9 pm, \$5

GIBSON GUITARS

SHOWROOM 107.7 The End

Endsession with Bastille, 11:45 am-12:30 pm, free

HIGH DIVE Joshua Powell

and the Great Train Robbery, Pat McHenry &

The Chinook Hooks, Kristen Marlo, 8 pm, \$6/\$8

HIGHWAY 99 High Cloud

Cover, 8 pm, \$7

★ **NEUMOS** Betty Who

with Vérité, 8 pm, \$17

SEAMONSTER Westsound

Deep Funk Club, Last

9:30 pm, \$5

★ **STUDIO SEVEN** The

Dirtball (Kottonmouth

Kings), JNX, Severed The

Impaler, Toxic Leaf, Dylan

Tha Kid, Mota Mouth Jones,

7:30 pm, \$12/\$15

SUBSTATION Either/Or,

Proofs, Pablo's Legs,

8 pm, \$8

TRACTOR TAVERN

Futurebirds, Gold

Connections, Fruit Juice,

8 pm, \$12

★ **VERA PROJECT**

JPEGMAFIA, Crimewave, AJ

Suede, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

VERMILLION Retirement,

Difficult Children, Super

Projection, 8-11 pm, \$7

★ **WAMU THEATER**

Bastille, 8-11 pm, \$42

JAZZ

★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Lizz Wright,

7:30 pm, \$34.50

★ **MOLLUSK** Jeff

Ferguson's Triangular

Jazztet, 7-10 pm, free

TULA'S Duchess, 7:30 pm,

\$20

DJ

CONTOUR Depth, 9 pm,

free

KREMWERK Family Night

with Astronomar and

Ghostboy Jones, 10 pm-

2 am, free

PONY Bloodlust, 9 pm, free

Q NIGHTCLUB Forms:

Brodinski & Flat White,

9 pm-2 am, \$15

REVOLVER BAR Maximum

Rock & Roll, 9 pm-2 am,

free

THE RUNAWAY TUF LUCK,

9 pm-1 am, free

THURS 4/27

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Peyote Ugly,

Devilwood, Dirty Dirty,

8 pm, \$8

BLUE MOON TAVERN Tigers

in the Tank, Count By Color,

The Bear Dance, 9 pm, \$7

THE CLOUD ROOM White

Baby Grand Series with

Shenandoah Davis &

Friends, 5:30-7:30 pm

COLUMBIA CITY THEATER

Crash the Glass, 8 pm

CROCODILE Allison Chains,

Drop The Leash, Hostile

Makeover, Lithium, 8 pm,

\$15

THE FUNHOUSE Bog, Deep

Tissue, Ghost Lips, 9 pm,

\$5/\$7

HIGH DIVE Marmalade,

8 pm, \$6

HIGHLINE Weedeater, The

Obsessed, Primitive Man,

7:30 pm, \$15/\$17

★ **FREMONT ABBEY**

LeRoy Bell with Erin Austin,

8 pm, \$8

EL CORAZON D.R.I. with

Guests, 7 pm, \$15/\$17

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Guests, 7 pm, \$15/\$17

★ **FREMONT ABBEY**

LeRoy Bell with Erin Austin,

8 pm, \$8

EL CORAZON D.R.I. with

THINGS TO DO

The Best of the Rest of the Music

Annual Tacoma Guitar Festival, 9:30 am-5 pm, \$15-\$25

★ **TIMBRE ROOM** Suzi Analogue, SassyBlack, Taylor Elizza Beth, N SO, 9 pm, \$12

VARIOUS LOCATIONS Reverend Horton Heat with Dale Watson, 10 pm, \$25-\$65

VICTORY LOUNGE Natural Causes, Prison, The Sharp Teeth, 8:30 pm, \$5/\$8

JAZZ

★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Larry Carlton, 9:30 pm, \$40.50

DJ

KREMWERK Late Night Munchies & Kremwerk Present: Harvard Bass, 10 pm, \$10

MONKEY LOFT Diggin Deep, 10 pm, \$15/ \$20

Q NIGHTCLUB REZZ, 10 pm-2 am

SHOWBOX Emo Night Brooklyn, 11:30 pm, \$10/\$12

STUDIO SEVEN Marble Productions 18 Year Anniversary Party, 9 pm, \$5/\$10

CLASSICAL

BENAROYA HALL ● Dido and Aeneas – Henry Purcell, 7:30 pm, \$20-\$45; ★ Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1, 8 pm, \$22-\$122

● **HIGHLINE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER** Northwest Symphony Orchestra, 8 pm, \$15/\$25

● **TOWN HALL** LUCO Presents: Chamber Music Cabaret, 7:30 pm, \$0-\$75

● **TRINITY PARISH CHURCH** Minimalism: Muhly, Gorecki, and Pärt, 7:30-9:30 pm, \$7-\$17

SUN 4/30

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Get Blown with Yohiness & Jay Morrison, Buje Mane, Kari Ca\$h, Eazy EQ, 8 pm, \$10

★ **BLUE MOON TAVERN** Keep America Great: A Northwest Immigrant Rights Benefit, 5 pm-12 am, \$10

CHOP SUEY Yurt, Bombshell Nightlight, Flying Fish Cove, 8 pm, \$8

HIGH DIVE Verlaine, Subways on the Sun, A Breakthrough in Field Studies, The New Up, 8 pm, \$6/\$8

THE KRAKEN BAR & LOUNGE Bird Teeth, Cannibalistic Vivisections, River Bottom, TFB, 9 pm-2 am, \$7

MERCURY Prelude To A Pistol, 9 pm-2 am, \$5

MOKEDO The Conclave Sessions, 2-7 pm, \$7-\$30

THE ROYAL ROOM Rik Wright's Fundamental Forces with Bret Higgins' Atlas Revolt, 8 pm, free

SEAMONSTER Bucket of Honey, 8 pm, free; Sing It Live, 10 pm, free

SEATTLE CENTER ● 24th Annual World Rhythm Festival, free

SUBSTATION Post Rapture Party with Fred Roth Revue and Campion, 8 pm, \$8

SUNSET TAVERN Porcelain Raft, 8:30 pm, \$13

● **TACOMA DOME** Third Annual Tacoma Guitar Festival, 10 am-4 pm, \$15-\$25

TRACTOR TAVERN Chris Pureka and Haley Heynderickx, 8 pm, \$15

● **UNIVERSITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH** Martin Luther Meets Martin Luther King Jr, 7 pm, \$15

★ ● **WAMU THEATER** The 1975, 8-11 pm, \$36.95

JAZZ

THE ANGRY BEAVER Jazz at the Beaver, 9 pm, free

CAPITOL CIDER Sunday Night Jazz Flights, 6 pm, free

★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Larry Carlton, 7:30 pm, \$40.50

TRIPLE DOOR Brian Nova Jazz Jam, 7 pm, free

★ ● **TULA'S** Jim Cutler Jazz Orchestra, 7:30 pm, \$10

VITO'S RESTAURANT & LOUNGE ★ The Ron Weinstein Trio, 9:30 pm, free; Bob Hammer, 6 pm, free

DJ

CONTOUR Top A Top, 9 pm, free

KREMWERK Fraktured, 9 pm-2 am, free

★ **RE-BAR** Flammable, 10 pm-3 am, \$10

TIMBRE ROOM Subvert I MC: Nofux Gibbons, Unknown 2layer, Sawyer James, Sixfour, 10 pm-2 am, free

CLASSICAL

● **BENAROYA HALL** Byron Schenkman and Friends: Mozart & the Bachs, 7 pm, \$10-\$42; Mahler's Sixth Symphony, 3 pm, \$17-\$54

★ ● **MEANY HALL** Dido and Aeneas – Henry Purcell, 2 pm, \$10-\$45

● **ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH** Philharmonia Northwest: In Nature's Realm, 2:30 pm, \$20

MON 5/1

LIVE MUSIC

● **CROCODILE** Drew Martin with Human Ladder, 6:30 pm, \$5

● **THE FUNHOUSE** The Joe August Band, Limanjaya, JNall, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

● **NEUMOS** Mod Sun with Guests, 7 pm, \$18/\$21

RENDEZVOUS Micah Jerome Ellison, Seven Stars Panda, Joey Casalini, 8 pm, \$10

TOWN HALL Sandbox Radio presents MAYDAY! MAYDAY!, 8 pm, \$25

JAZZ

THE ROYAL ROOM The Salute Sessions, 10 pm, free

TUE 5/2

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Lydia Ainsworth, 8 pm, \$10

● **CROCODILE** Lewis Watson, 7 pm, \$13

● **EL CORAZON** Superjoint, Battlecross, Child Bite, Witchburn, The Crüd Güns, 8 pm, \$24.50/\$28

HIGH DIVE The Drifter Luke, Echo Texture, Guests, 8 pm, \$6/\$8

NECTAR Bazooka Picnic, Unsinkable Heavies, 8 pm, \$10

★ **THE ROYAL ROOM** The Suffering Fuckheads, 10 pm, free

SEAMONSTER Joe Doria Presents, 10 pm, free; SUP, 8 pm, free/\$5 after 9 pm

SHADOWLAND Starlite Singer/Songwriter Showcase, 9 pm, free

SUNSET TAVERN Late September Dogs, Snowday, Sue Quigley, 8 pm, \$8

TRACTOR TAVERN Kawehi with Zoya, 8 pm, \$15

JAZZ

★ **JAZZ ALLEY** Bill Charlap Trio, \$28.50

OWL N' THISTLE Jazz with Eric Verlinde, 8 pm, free

● **PONCHO CONCERT HALL** Gerald Clayton Trio, 8 pm, \$10-\$18



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NECTAR

Nectar Lounge
412 N 36th St
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www.nectarlounge.com

4.27 Thursday (Bluegrass)
HEAD FOR THE HILLS
Spare Rib & the Bluegrass Sauce, Sourwood Stringband

4.28 Friday (Grateful Dead Tribute)
THE GOLDEN ROAD
performs "Grateful Dead," Swindler

4.29 Saturday (Bluegrass)
HOT BUTTERED RUM
Cascade Crescendo

5.2 Tuesday (Instrumental Funk)
BAZOOKA PICNIC & UNSINKABLE HEAVIES

5.3 Wednesday (World)
VIEUX FARKA TOURÉ
Clinton Fearon (Solo Acoustic), DJ Darek Mazzone

5.4 Thursday (Electronic/Dancehall)
WALSHY FIRE (OF MAJOR LAZER)
Yungg Trip, Selecta Element

5.5 Friday (Dance/Live EDM)
MOON HOOCH
The Cumbieros, DJ Solid Sound

5.6 Saturday (Reggae)
TOMORROWS BAD SEEDS

5.7 Sunday (Folk/Bluegrass)
CROW AND THE CANYON
Alwynn & Jolliff, Rain City Ramblers

5.9 Tuesday (Hip Hop)
STARLITO AND DON TRIP
Scotty ATL, Red Dot, DJ Tony Goods, Cam the Mac, Dirtay

UP & COMING EVERY MONDAY: MOJAM

5.10 SCOTT PEMBERTON BAND

5.11 SIMIAN MOBILE DISCO

5.12 TRL TOTAL REQUEST LIVE

5.13 MARTYPARTY

5.14 JOE GODDARD

5.17 ERIC TOLLEFSON BAND

5.18 MELTDOWN SHOWDOWN

5.20 MARK FARINA-MUSHROOM JAZZ

5.21 TOO MANY ZOOZ

5.23 DEVIN SINHA

5.24 TEEBS

5.25 "A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY...THE CONCERT"

5.26 VAUDEVILLE ETIQUETTE

5.27 PIGS ON THE WING

5.30 LA INÉDITA

6.1 ANDY COE BAND

6.2 80S VS 90S

6.3 NITE WAVE

6.4 FRAMEWORKS

6.7 THE HIGH COUNCIL

6.8 MADCHILD

6.9 POOR MAN'S WHISKEY

6.10 CLINTON FEARON

6.11 JAH9

6.13 THE BLACK SEEDS

6.14 TARRUS RILEY

6.15 GREYBOY ALLSTARS (2 NIGHTS!)

6.17 DOPAPOD

6.20 THE SKINTS

6.23 EASY STAR ALL-STARS

6.29 ATASH

6.30 SHAFTY (PHISH TRIBUTE)

7.8 CES CRU

7.27 PREZIDENT BROWN

7.29 PRINCE & MJ

NEUMOS

COMING UP NEXT

FRIDAY 4/28

POND

KIRIN J CALLINAN

SATURDAY 4/29

BOWIEVISION

PURPLE MANE

THURSDAY 5/4

LUSINE

MALIDONT +
TYLER SWAN RADIO IN TUNNELS

FRIDAY 5/5

HOME SWEET HOME

CHARLIE AND THE RAYS +
LOWLANDS + SLEEPING LESSONS

SATURDAY 5/6

COM TRUISE + CLARK

SUNDAY 5/7

GEOGRAPHER

MONDAY 5/8

PNB ROCK

TUESDAY 5/9

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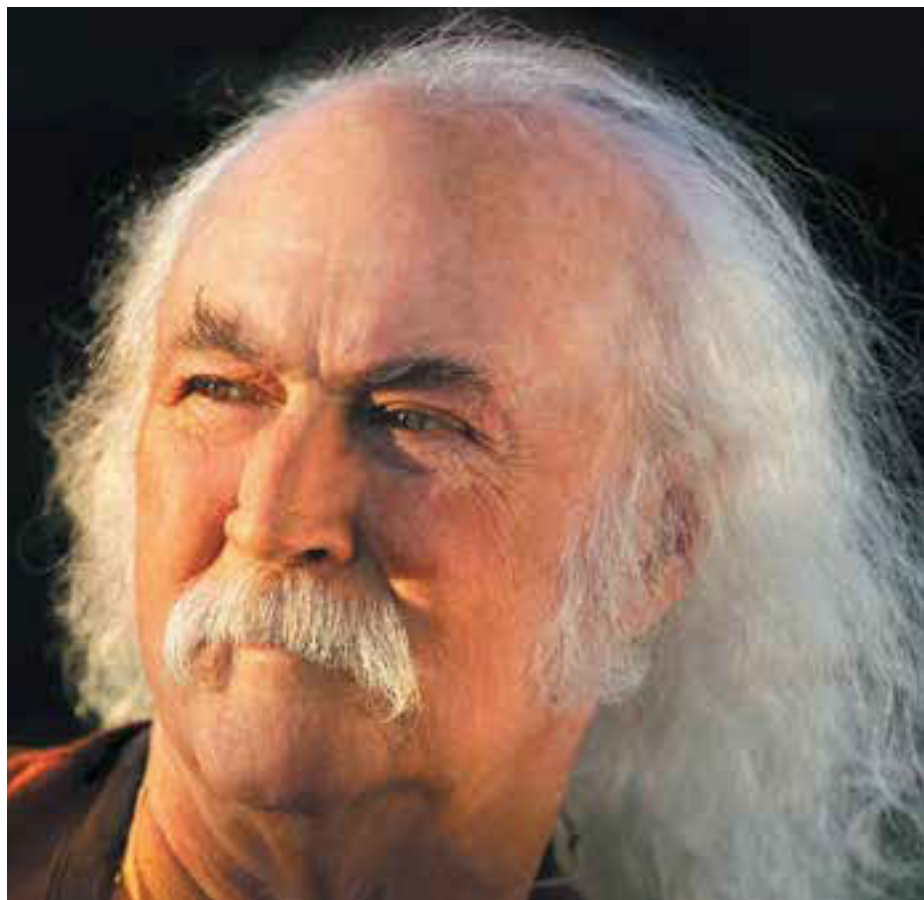
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MUSIC

DAVID CROSBY *He who is on the road.*

Croz Purposes

David Crosby Still Sings Like an Angel

BY DAVE SEGAL

David Crosby—who still really hasn't cut his hair—is in shockingly fine voice on his most recent album, 2016's *Lighthouse*. His high, silky tones elevate this folk-rock phantasia into an angel-haired realm that—while not as lofty or as lusty as his work with the Byrds, Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, and his early solo output—is better than you'd expect from a 75-year-old music-biz vet with *mucho* substance abuse under his cape.

It's a wistfully beautiful, acoustic affair co-helmed by Snarky Puppy bassist Michael League, and you can expect to hear much from it at Crosby's Seattle date—along with material from CSN(Y), the Byrds, and his sublime 1971 solo debut, *If I Could Only Remember My Name*.

In recent years, Croz has become a Twitter sensation, the rare senior-citizen superstar who's opened himself to the social-media masses, answering any random

questions they lob his way with blunt honesty and curt humor. (Recent exchange: "Croz you still get stoned?" "Sometimes.") He's also revealed himself to be a staunch advocate for left-leaning causes. Once a hippie, always a hippie, perhaps.

On the phone, and in the spirit of his Twitter presence, I peppered Croz with several questions that non-sequitured over a wide range of topics. While he was not as voluble as one would like (to be fair, we only had 15 minutes), Croz showed that his mind is still sharp.

David Crosby & Friends

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Do you think that it's fair that veteran musicians have a hard time getting acceptance for their newer work?

In terms of live performance, you have to strike a balance between the newest work, which is the stuff you *really* want to play, and [old material] people want to hear. Because they love those songs and they want 'em. There's nothing wrong with that. But any songwriter will tell you their favorite songs are the ones they just wrote. That's part of our deal: We need to be playing those new songs to stay alive [*laughs*].

"You tune the bottom string down from D to E, and that's a joy. It gets a lot more complex from there."

Are you aware of the cult following *If I Could Only Remember My Name* has accrued over the decades?

I think it's wonderful that they like it. I'm very proud of that record. We had a great deal of fun making it. Jerry Garcia was there almost every night, and he and I had a *blast*.

Can you remember if Garcia's contributions changed the way you played guitar or composed songs on that record? Were you trying to accommodate him or was he pushing you into new directions?

No. He and I would have fun. Both of us are not guys to stick to the rule book very much. We like to do odd and unusual things.

For us, it was a great source of new music and joy. He was a very wonderful cat.

Can you discuss your use of alternate tunings?

What happens is, you go to detuning. You tune the bottom string down from D to E, and that's a joy. That's just the first step on the slippery slope. It gets a lot more complex from there. I ran into two people who changed my life on that. One of them was Joni Mitchell, who used more tunings than almost anybody, and used them brilliantly. The other one was Michael Hedges, who was even more sophisticated than Joni, which is really saying something. Both of those people were a joy to work with and taught me a great deal.

What are your thoughts on the current state of the music industry as it pertains to artists making a living through royalties and streaming services?

It's terrible, man. Streaming has killed us. They don't pay us. If it keeps going the way it's going, we're not going to be able to make any more

records for them to stream, because we don't make enough money to go into the studio.

Are you doing okay on back-catalog royalties?

Not really, because we don't get any performance royalties, because streaming is killing us. The only way we make money now is selling tickets to live performances.

Do you still think that, as the gorgeous opener to *Name* puts it, "music is love"?

It's probably not that simple, but it's a good thing to sing.

How do you feel about the way you've been portrayed on *The Simpsons*?

Ha-ha-ha. I feel fine about that. ■

Feels Like Hippie Music

Drummer Michael Shrieve Remembers
If I Could Only Remember My Name

BY DAVE SEGAL

Former Santana drummer Michael Shrieve is famous for being the youngest musician (20) to play the 1969 Woodstock Festival, and for his stunning solo during "Soul Sacrifice," which remains a highlight of Michael Wadleigh's film *Woodstock*. Now living in Seattle and still creating challenging music with his Spellbinder group, Shrieve also contributed drums to two songs on David Crosby's 1971 psych-folk classic *If I Could Only Remember My Name*: "What Are Their Names" and "Song with No Words (Tree with No Leaves)."

Recalling the recording sessions in a phone interview, Shrieve says that while he's unimpressed with his work on those tunes, he admits that their subdued folk-rock

structures didn't play to his strengths. For *Name*, Shrieve and a cast of Los Angeles and San Francisco musical luminaries—Joni Mitchell, Jerry Garcia, Neil Young, Graham Nash, et al.—were mostly jamming on tunes that Crosby brought to the studio. "When I listen to it, it really feels like hippie music to me," Shrieve says. "It was different from the way I played with Santana. Because [Crosby's] music comes from folk music, essentially. I was coming more from a funk and jazz sort of vibe."

Shrieve first met Crosby before he joined Santana. In the summer of 1968, the young drummer went to LA with Jefferson Airplane members Jack Casady and Jorma Kaukonen, with the possibility of joining the band, who

were cutting *Crown of Creation* there.

While Shrieve and company were in the studio, David Crosby entered. "I was a big fan of the Byrds," Shrieve says. "He brought in this song called 'Triad' that he had done with [them] years earlier. They rejected it, and so he taught it to the band and Grace Slick sang it, and that's the first time I met David."

Shrieve notes that one of the things that makes Crosby's music stand out from other musicians' with whom he's collaborated is his knack for writing modally. "It wasn't just chords. Obviously, some of them came out like that with Crosby, Stills & Nash, but he wrote in a way that was a very open palette, so that his voice could go in different ways. It was like John Coltrane and Paul Butterfield Blues Band, Michael Bloomfield playing guitar on the song 'East-West,' where it was very modal.

"Crosby's songs are slow and open: 'Almost Cut My Hair,' 'Everybody's Been Burned'—now that's a beautiful song. The melody is almost like that old jazz song 'Lush Life.' The



way [Crosby's] melodies move is unique. Of course, then there's 'Guinnevere,' which Miles Davis covered, because of that modal way of writing. David's voice is unique and his writing is unique. He's definitely an American icon. He still hasn't cut his hair, has he?

"I always have a special place in my heart for David," Shrieve concludes. "He's an unusual guy. We enjoyed talking about poetry, like Dylan Thomas, and other types of music. He was kind of a *bon vivant* and knew everybody. They don't make people like that anymore." ■

ERIC ANDERSON *Releasing Keepers on Mooncrew Records.*

Sweet Spot

Eric Anderson's Perfectionism Pays Off on *Keepers*

BY AMBER CORTES

For someone who has less than 12 hours to write 20 songs, Eric Anderson doesn't seem too stressed out (yet). The mastermind behind Cataldo is taking part in a songwriting challenge with some musician pals. "The idea is that if you set a goal to write a song every 36 minutes or whatever, you just can't be too picky or judge your own work too harshly because you just need to meet this crazy deadline," he says as he apologizes for the "mess" in his Central District home studio.

It's one of the cleanest work spaces I've ever seen—guitar pedal chains lined up in rows on small stands, cords tucked neatly underneath keyboards, and a whiteboard with 20 little circles that Anderson checks off as he finishes each song. He's done six so far.

This songwriting challenge couldn't be more different than that of his latest album, *Keepers*, which took almost two years, multiple trips to recording studios around town, and endless e-mails wrangling the many musicians who participated (including Ben Gibbard, violinist Andrew Joslyn, Danielle Sullivan from Wild Ones, mixer Tucker Martine, and members of Pickwick, Fruit Bats, electro-pop band the Silver Torches, among others).

Each song on *Keepers* sounds different from the last, from the disco-chill, toe-tapping urgency of "Photograph" to the nostalgic piano chords in "Straight Up Western (White Noise)." But the one unifying aspect may just be Anderson's melodic and harmonic nous, joined with his supple, cerebral way with words. And in terms of its production value, *Keepers* is also his most ambitious to date, in keeping with his ultra-perfectionist tendencies. Which means he's 100 percent satisfied now, right?

"There is this feeling, no matter what, that I'll crack it next time," he explains. "Like I'll make the perfect thing, where I wouldn't change anything about it. And that is very motivating. But then life happens, and being a human being happens, and you make another plan and adjust things, and eventually you land on something that you feel really good about."

With *Keepers*, Anderson has hit his career sweet spot in the constant push and pull between creative pursuits and economic reality. For the past nine years, while making Cataldo records, he's also been working his way up from ice-cream scooper to area manager at

Molly Moon's. Now Molly Moon's is releasing the album on vinyl for the launch of its new label, Mooncrew Records.

"It's just been a really slow burn," Anderson says. Last year, Cataldo toured with an eight-piece band for their album *Gilded Oldies*, pushing themselves to play every festival in the state that they could. Their hard work generated both critical acclaim for the album and growing attention outside of the city.

"We've never had this moment where we got exponentially way more popular, but one foot in front of the other, one record after the next, in a linear way, we just got a little more cachet each time," he says. "And so now it's funny to be at the place where we're selling tickets in

places that aren't Seattle."

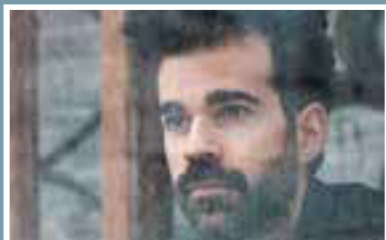
But, Anderson admits, because of the "crumbling economy around music," the hard work doesn't always pay off in the other way—the money way. Whereas in the past he would cut an album in his basement in Olympia or his parents' house in Idaho, he's now developed "champagne tastes" for recording studios and working with top-notch talent.

Cataldo records, like nearly all music releases in 2017, still cost more than they earn. But this reality brings the freedom to "be able to do kind of whatever you want, whenever you want, and with whomever you want. In a way, the people who are in my same position are almost like Beyoncé. Beyoncé can put out a record and it could make zero dollars—and Beyoncé is fine. And I feel the same way, actually. I've also never felt more validated by my peers, who I really like and respect. This record could just eat shit, and I would be okay. My ego would be bruised, but financially, I just don't count on it for money."

For the album release, Anderson is celebrating by hosting a Nerd Prom, presented with Artist Home and KEXP. The party will be complete with DJs (Ben Gibbard from Death Cab for Cutie, KEXP's Sharlese Metcalf, Marco Collins, Chris Staples, and *The Stranger's* own Kathleen Tarrant), spiked punch, a photo booth and a table full of eye-glasses to try on for posing. Which sounds fun—but why nerds? "Well, I myself am a nerd. Which is... not like Beyoncé," he laughs. "I'm like Beyoncé in many ways, as we've discussed, but not in my stage presence. I guess I just know my place as a frontman." ■

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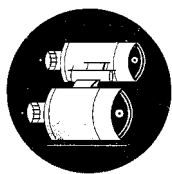
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THEATER

Cherdonna Shinatra Trolls Ibsen's *A Doll's House*

But Ibsen Trolls Cherdonna, Too

BY RICH SMITH



SPIDER OQ

Cherdonna's Doll House
WET at 12th Avenue Arts
April 28–May 15

Washington Ensemble Theatre closes its 2016/17 season with the best idea it's had in recent memory: *Cherdonna's Doll's House*, which opens April 28 and runs through May 15, combines two giants of the stage. One giant is *A Doll's House*, Norwegian play-factory Henrik Ibsen's masterpiece.

Theater 101 professors always present this classic as the exemplar of the realist “well-made play.” Before the students inclined to snub the Western canon can tap out their first angry tweet, the professor reminds the class that *A Doll's House* is a FEMINIST play about a WOMAN (Nora) who single-handedly keeps an entire household together and yet decides to leave her husband (Torvald, that infantilizing bastard) and children at the end. Why? Because you'll have to read the play to find out, that's why.

The other giant is Stranger Genius Award winner Cherdonna Shinatra, a childlike clownspllosion who simultaneously parodies high femme expression and luxuriates in its trappings.

I don't know *why*, exactly, this combo sounds so promising. Maybe it's the fact that Cherdonna's aesthetic perfectly exaggerates Nora's ebullient personality and buttoned-up veneer. Maybe it's the fact that WET's so-called “Breakdown” season thus far has been, both onstage and backstage, consciously feminist in its concerns, and so I'm excited to see what happens when a feminist performance artist trolls a feminist play.

With these half-formed thoughts buzzing around my brain, I recently observed a rehearsal of *Cherdonna's Doll's House* and spoke to Jody Kuehner, the artist beneath the clown-white mask.

When I walked into the dusty little studio inside the Armory, I saw Kuehner sans glitter sitting in a chair with Cherdonna's trademark horror-smile plastered across her face. As she watched Leah Salcido Pfennig twirl and charm and dazzle as Nora, Kuehner slid out of her chair like an ooze and began crawling toward the stage.

She interrupted Brace Evans, who plays the undersung character Dr. Rank, by calling out his name and telling him how glad she was to be his friend. As the actors tried to proceed with the scene, she inserted herself into their dialogue. She asked almost all the actors how they

liked being in the play, and each one of them replied with some variation of “I love the opportunity to do this classic, feminist play.” Like the id of a critic let loose on the stage, Kuehner began to reveal all the ideas the play conceals beneath its story. At one point, she literally started opening presents from beneath the Christmas tree and offering the cookies inside to invisible audience members.

Over tea the following week, Kuehner said that she and director Ali Mohamed el-Gasseir changed all of that. It wasn't working. Too many interruptions too quickly. The audience needed to feel invested in Nora's story before Cherdonna completely invaded their world.

She and el-Gasseir have been working over Ibsen's script for the last year and a half. They cut the script down and dreamed up jokey interruptions, but she said the last month has been trial and error: This means that the rehearsal process has also been the writing process, which is a bold way to work. El-Gasseir and Kuehner have made huge changes to the cast's relationship to Cherdonna—two weeks before the show opens—and the cast has just had to react. Luckily, everyone's sensibilities align. They're not precious with the work, and the actors have been open to changes.

Unless they've made changes since last week, in the fully staged production, Cherdonna will sit in a gaudy throne opposite the stage and flanked by the audience. Sort of like a *Mystery Science Theater 3000* setup. She'll interact abstractly with the cast at first, but then get more aggressive as the play goes on.

In the beginning, the cast will be excited about their new friend. As the interruptions increase, Nora will spearhead an anti-Cherdonna rebellion. Putting the “real” back in “realism,” the cast will read quotes, Kuehner said, from all of Cherdonna's bad reviews. In this way, the cast of Ibsen's play will get to troll their troller. While all of this meta stuff is going on, the actors will still be trying to act their way through a full performance of the play.

The ending was still up in the air as of two weeks ago, but I wouldn't tell you even if I knew. You'll have to find out for yourself if this classic holds up to Cherdonna's scrutiny. I have a hunch you won't be disappointed either way. ■

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The Beautiful and Bizarre Moments of Seattle's Independent Bookstores

BY CHRISTOPHER FRIZZELLE

Independent bookstores are the best. You never know when you're going to have a profound experience browsing the shelves, an encounter with a famous writer, or an unexpected flirtation with someone who has the same taste in books as you do.

On April 29, nineteen Seattle-area bookstores are participating in Independent Bookstore Day. If you visit all of them and get your Indie Bookstore Challenge passport stamped at each, you get 25 percent off at all those stores for a year.

Two years ago, 42 people completed the challenge; last year, 120 people did; this year, maybe you?

In anticipation of Independent Bookstore Day, I visited a few of the participating bookstores and put their staff members on the spot: What's the craziest thing that's happened in their store?

Elliott Bay Book Company

1521 10th Ave, 206-624-6600

When international literary star Karl Ove Knausgaard came to the United States with the first volume of his six-volume memoir, *My Struggle*, he visited two cities: Seattle and New York City. It just so happened that one-of-a-kind memoirist Geoff Dyer (*Out of Sheer Rage*) was in town doing an event at Benaroya Hall the same night and wanted to meet Knausgaard, so he came up to Elliott Bay. It also just so happened that David Shields, another one-of-a-kind memoirist (*Other People*), was following Dyer around like a fanboy that night. An Elliott Bay employee remembered the moment as "three of the most self-obsessed, self-referential writers on the planet" converged in one place. He also remembered Knausgaard was "smoking every moment he could," and that afterward they all went out to Oddfellows for beers and left hastily. Months later, Dyer apologized to Elliott Bay's Rick Simonson: "I realize we ran off and stiffed you on the beer."

University Book Store

4326 University Way NE, 206-634-3400

This one is a three-way tie between the woman who camped outside overnight wearing a panda suit while waiting to meet Hillary Clinton, the little boy who came to a Cary Elwes appearance dressed as Dread Pirate Roberts from *The Princess Bride*, and the time Alison Bechdel signed the bras and panties of a gaggle of young women.

As for the woman in the panda suit: "She wasn't allowed to wear the suit to meet Clinton, and, by the time of the signing, employees had stashed the suit behind the sales counter," *The Stranger* reported at the time, in 2014.

The boy dressed as Cary Elwes in *The Princess Bride* got lifted into the air by Elwes, while everyone in the store snapped pictures.

And as for the Bechdel incident, the fans in question were "super cool, very attractive," according to manager Pam Cady. "They waited for everyone else to leave. [Bechdel] had never [signed underwear] before, and she was like, 'Really? Okay!' She felt like a rock star, and to us *was* a rock star."



KAREN MAEDA ALLMAN/ELLIOTT BAY BOOK COMPANY

ELLIOTT BAY Karl Ove Knausgaard, Geoff Dyer, and David Shields all on the same night.

Third Place Books

17171 Bothell Way NE, Lake Forest Park, 206-366-3333

Events manager Wendy Ceballos recalls booking John Irving and Hulk Hogan on the same night. The Lake Forest Park location is big enough to do multiple events at once, so they do it sometimes, but this was a particularly interesting pairing. "John Irving was onstage and had like 200 people, and Hulk Hogan had a signing line only. The audiences couldn't be more different from each other, and they were sort of bumping into each other. And I got them in the back room, and of course John Irving knew who Hulk Hogan was, and Hulk Hogan had no idea who John Irving was," Ceballos said.

Seattle Mystery Bookstore

117 Cherry St, 206-587-5737

"We do have a ghost," one employee said when I asked if there was anything mysterious about the store. "About 15 years ago, one of the staff came out from the back hallway and asked her colleague if the man back there had been helped. Her colleague told her there was nobody back there. When they looked, there was indeed nobody back there. The woman who saw the man described him as a dark figure wearing a long overcoat and a funny round hat. And a few months later, a guy came in who said that his great-grandfather had had a barbershop in our space back in

the time of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in 1909, and the next time he was in he'd bring us pictures. The next time he came in, weeks later, he brought a picture of this space when it was a barbershop and a picture of his great grandfather, who was wearing a long dark overcoat and a bowler hat. The woman who had been working and had seen the dark figure didn't know the term for a bowler hat." He paused to let that sink in. "And occasionally books fly off shelves. We usually say, 'Hello, ghost.' And two women who work here with me now occasionally feel someone futzing with the hair on the back of their head. That's when they know it's time for a haircut."

Eagle Harbor Books

157 Winslow Way E, Bainbridge Island, 206-842-5332

There are no ghosts at Eagle Harbor on Bainbridge Island, although the booksellers do seem to have a psychic connection to their customers. "We will often order books for customers before they know they want them," one bookseller told me. "We know our customers better than Amazon. Our algorithm is us." When the book arrives, they'll call the regular they have in mind and say: "We have a book you might like..." And they're almost always right. Also, a bookseller once fell in love with one of the customers, and now that bookseller owns the store and she and that customer are married.

Phinney Books

7405 Greenwood Ave N, 206-297-2665

An employee laughed when I asked for the funniest story, and talked about how the great thing about a small store like this is the low-key charm of neighborhood regulars, and then remembered something unforgettable a regular told him. This regular is a delightful woman in her 80s or 90s, "still glamorous," who comes in all the time, sometimes with her small dog. She was making small talk at the counter when she said, unexpectedly, "Not many people know this, but I dated Shel Silverstein from 1972 to 1975, when he lived at the Playboy Mansion."

Secret Garden Books

2214 NW Market St, 206-789-5006

"We took Stephenie Meyer on her first school visit ever, right at the time *Twilight* was being published," a bookseller at Ballard's children's bookstore recalled. The store has "tinkle bricks" in the pavement outside that make noise when kids walk on them. "You walk, and as you move, they make sounds. Toddlers love them. You don't have to weigh more than 30 pounds. I swear to God, after that school visit, I was walking on the tinkle bricks, and I looked down and I said: 'Stephenie, the bricks aren't making any sound.' I'm not making this up. I said, 'Stephenie, why are the bricks not making any sound?' Like she's a goddamn vampire! Once I brought it to her attention"—once the vampire was alerted to the effect she was having—"they started tinkling again."

Fantagraphics Books

1201 Vale St, 206-524-1967

This comics store is right in the heart of Georgetown, near a bunch of bars and Pearl Jam's practice space. "We frequently have customers who'll recognize one of the guys," one employee said. "We also frequently have inebriated customers walking around looking for the bar. I like that. If they're inebriated enough, sometimes I can sell them a few comic books before I direct them around the corner to 9lb Hammer." As for crazy stories, Larry Reid racked his brain and said, "I think one of the funniest things that happened in recent memory was a patron who spent about half an hour perusing the store and then came up to me, mystified, and asked: What kind of store is this?" ■

The other stores participating in Independent Bookstore Day are **Ada's Technical Books** (425 15th Ave E), **Book Larder** (4252 Fremont Ave N), **BookTree Kirkland** (609 Market St, Kirkland), **Edmonds Bookshop** (111 Fifth Ave S, Edmonds), **Island Books** (3014 78th Ave SE, Mercer Island), **Magnolia's Bookstore** (3206 W McGraw St), **The Neverending Bookshop** (10123 Main Pl #2, Bothell), **Open Books: A Poem Emporium** (2414 N 45th St), **Queen Anne Book Company** (1811 Queen Anne Ave N), **The Traveler** (256 Winslow Way E, Bainbridge Island), and **Liberty Bay Books** (409 Pacific Ave, Bremerton). For more info, go to facebook.com/SEABookstoreDay or [@SeaBookstoreDay](https://twitter.com/SeaBookstoreDay) on Instagram and Twitter.

TRANSLATIONS

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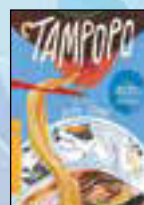
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FILM

The Documentary *Karl Marx City* Reveals the Truth About a Police State

BY CHARLES MUDEDE

Once lived in a socialist country—or at least a country that was on the “road to socialism.” This country changed its name from Rhodesia to Zimbabwe in 1980, after a brutal war between those who had everything (white Africans) and those who had almost nothing (black Africans). The revolutionaries who took power in 1981 were educated and committed to building a utopia for all workers. The rising sun was bright in the sky of this socialist experiment called “The House of Stones” (what “Zimbabwe” means in Shona).

The experiment was dead by 1987. All of the revolution’s noble principles and ideas were sent to prison for life or simply executed. The revolutionary president, Robert Mugabe, became a dictator and never looked back. My family began leaving the country in 1988, and at the time, nothing could convince me that socialism was in any way better than capitalism. There was a TV show, *Road to Socialism*, that aired every week and featured a black African Marxist debating a black African businessman, a capitalist. I never sided with the former, who was clearly not talking about reality but only his party’s ideology and program.

Under the socialists, the Zimbabwe economy collapsed, and blame for everything that went wrong was placed on capitalists and their network of local spies and international allies. Socialism could not be achieved as long as these conspirators were around. But the only spies people ever found were working for the government. And they were not looking for enemies of the people, but the party. This socialism wasn’t about the economy, education, or raising living standards (actual socialism), but the control of the population and the concentration of political power (a police state).

Karl Marx City, a hip little documentary by Petra Epperlein and Michael Tucker, examines another failed socialist project, the German Democratic Republic. The project began after the Second World War and ended soon after the fall of the Berlin Wall, in 1989. Whereas I saw the dawn of a socialist project, Epperlein, the film’s narrator and subject, as a girl saw the twilight years of one. Eight or so years after East Germany reunited with capitalist West Germany, her father committed suicide and left her a strange final note. The film investigates this death, which seems more and more connected with the massive surveillance apparatus once operated by the Stasi, a secret department of the former

“socialist” government.

This organization filmed everyone and everything. People walking down the street, entering factories, stepping out of cars, sitting in parks, taking a family trip, finding things on the street (like a sharp knife). The Stasi had 90,000 official agents and enough secret informants to pack a city, 200,000. The organization collected thousands upon thousands of hours of film footage and amassed millions upon millions of files on ordinary citizens. What you will find in all of these records

is mostly nothing. The people behind the Iron Curtain were as dull as those in the Free World.

But, clearly, the Stasi was not trying to find traitors or capitalist agents. The organization itself was the reason for being itself. It was there to let people know they were being watched. If no one knew of it and its doings, then it would have been ineffectual. In East Germany, you had to watch yourself simply because you knew you were

being watched. This is not an Orwellian state of things (the eye of the state always on you), but more Foucault’s panopticon (you can’t tell if you are being watched or not, so you always behave as if you are being watched).

Epperlein walks into this miserable past with cold eyes, a smileless mouth, thick headphones, and a massive mic. She is spying on the spies, spying on her father’s life, spying on her childhood, spying on the ruins of a police state. In one moment, she raises the mic up to a statue of Karl Marx (whose ideas and books had nothing to do with Karl Marx City, which was renamed Chemnitz, or the Stasi, or that awful statue), which is still in the city because it was too heavy to move.

She also explains big German words or expressions that describe states of memory or remembering.

The documentary is mostly good, but it does make one big mistake. This happens when Epperlein speculates that the Stasi might have found Facebook useful. But this is wrong. They would have hated this and other forms of social media. There is too much fun on Facebook and Instagram. There is no fear, no worry in these digital streams of posts and pictures. It would be like an East German inviting an agent into their home and giving them cookies and coffee with lots of milk, and chatting and showing them baby pics and photos of a marriage, a trip to the country, a brand-new car, or a knife discovered while walking home from the grocery store. ■



Karl Marx City

dir. Petra Epperlein, Michael Tucker
Fri April 28, Northwest Film Forum

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Chicken Tikka Masala Pizza: Hell, Why Not?

The Fun, Anything-Goes World of Fremont's Pizza/Asian Fusion Joint Chinapie

BY CORINA ZAPPIA

I love to think of that moment when French-trained chefs go rogue. I picture it all going down like a scene out of *Ratatouille*. Slamming pans against the stove, they scream and fling spare onions at their sous chefs, and in a fit of rage—or brilliance—they discover that

the secret ingredient to their star dish is not the \$200-an-ounce white truffle they've been fingering, but lo, the peasant-friendly turnip.

Or a French chef goes rogue like CIA-trained Vuong Loc—skipping over the tried-and-true and opening a high-end pizza/

Asian fusion restaurant instead. Because isn't it time foie gras pizza and chicken pho dumpings coexist on the same menu?

"I've always wanted a pizza place," Loc told me. "It just sounded like a fun project where I could bring the family regularly to eat." Fun is the operative word for the fifth venture from Vuong and wife Tricia Loc, who opened the seasonal, classic French restaurant Pomerol next door, and were behind the now-shuttered Portage, June, and Pig N Whistle. If Pomerol looks like where you'd go for an intimate date over a bottle of wine and steak frites, all dimmed lighting and cozy tables, Chinapie resembles the next stage-of-life situation where you can take the kids. The bright, airy space with white metal chairs, simple lightweight wooden tables, and an open kitchen is as child-friendly as a pizza ►

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◀ parlor, from the high chairs in the corner to the homemade push-pops for dessert.

Loc spends a long time thinking about the rotating selection of pizzas on his menu, looking for a “balanced bite” with new ingredients but “familiar flavor and texture.” His Asian-fusion pizzas—fish sauce with pork and pesto! Salami, chili oil, and honey!—sound unorthodox, until you remember that the most groundbreaking Asian and Italian fusion happened thousands of years ago. What up, *pasta*. If the Chinese invention of noodles gradually made its way over to Italy, why can’t the love be returned with a little hoisin sauce in your wood-fired pizza, a little Szechuan chili oil mingling with grated Grana Padano cheese over your baked Olympia oyster?

Some of these inventions are more successful than others, naturally. Other reviewers have raved about the Uncle Sau pizza, with its cilantro-and-hazelnut-pesto base, liberal dabs of fresh mozzarella, and chunks of sweet fish-

them with basil, tomato, fresh Thai chili, and garlic sautéed in olive oil. They’re finished with his caramel sauce, a blend of burnt sugar, black pepper, and fish sauce. This is a spicy, well-seasoned bit of bird, leading you to wish you had ordered one of the Old Stove Brewing drafts to wash it down with instead of a Jael Julep (a sweet, gingery take on the mint julep with gin instead of bourbon).

I wouldn’t say the pho flavor in the chicken pho dumplings stands out significantly—it tastes similar to other great soup dumplings I’ve tried. I kept drinking the pho broth that spilled out into the spoon, asking myself dumb questions like: Is this pho-y enough for me? Can I feel the pho? The answer is, sadly, no, but the dumplings are delicious, with the oh-so-delicate sack of noodle barely containing the broth and savory ball of gingery ground meat.

With the exception of the \$24 foie gras pizza, all pizzas—sized for two people to share or one person to have a really big meal—run a



JESSICA STEIN

CONFIT CHICKEN WINGS *These things are seriously mouthwatering.*

sauce-glazed pork. But on my visit, the spare helpings of pork were cooked until over-dry, and the fish sauce/jalapeño/pesto combo was, shockingly, a little bland. Uncle Sau was having a bad night of it, but the Indian-inspired Neli was in top form. The curry spices in the chicken tikka masala sausage and tomato cream curry played nicely against the tang of goat cheese and pickled onions. It was like pizza meets your favorite Indian takeout.

The problem with Chinapie—and it’s a good one to have—is that there are so many types of pizzas you’ll want to try on your first visit, but not enough stomach to accommodate them all. Best to go with a large group. My curiosity was piqued by the Pomerol, named after Loc’s popular French restaurant, because what kind of wacky goose puts foie gras, quail eggs, Morbier cheese, and hoisin sauce on a pizza? And the Chowder—a potato, bacon, and clam pizza with a béchamel base—sounded like a warm soup hug, the bread bowl conveniently already attached. But I settled on Mark’s Barn, a vegetarian pizza where the squash takes center stage, its sweet, homey delicata spruced up by a liberal sprinkling of fresh, bitter arugula on top.

Your eyes might jump down to the pizzas first, but don’t skip over the appetizers, which provide equally tempting reasons to return to Chinapie. The Pok Pok wing explosion has prompted every sports bar and restaurant to offer similar fish-sauce-glaze variations on their menus these days, but the confit chicken wings at Chinapie are proof positive that not all are created equal. Theirs deserve a spot right next to Hue Ky Mi Gia’s fried butter wings of glory. Serious work goes into these: Loc cures and confits the wings, and then crisps them up in the fryer before tossing

friendly \$13 to \$18. But some of the appetizer prices killed me a little. The pho soup dumplings are four for \$9; I would have preferred six, even if they charged \$11. I’m aware of the rising rents in Fremont and the gorgeous design of the restaurant, including the light-fixture-of-the-future they had going above our head that you could stab an intergalactic alien to death with. But you really do have to cry when the Olympic oyster and octopus baked with Szechuan chili oil comes to your table, a mere two oysters and two tentacles for \$17. Yes, the house-made chili oil and the meatiness of the oyster were a delectably savory pairing of flavors. Sure, the tender octopus made a quick convert out of my friend, who has always avoided octopus because she’d found previous executions too tough. But watching that same friend split a silver-dollar-size oyster into two so she could share it was one of the saddest things I’ve ever seen. Let heaven’s generosity pour forth, Chinapie. Let there be *three* oysters. I’ll even trade you a tentacle.

For dessert, the homemade push-pops are the big draw here; do not ask me why salted-caramel ice cream somehow tastes better when you push it through a plastic tube. It’s one of life’s great mysteries. It also felt like a final message Loc was sending out to his diners: Don’t take it all so seriously. Food doesn’t have to be an intensely contemplated, haute activity. “I want Chinapie to be a place where you can just eat and drink your favorite things without thinking about it,” Loc said.

Eating through the menu, you get the sense that Vuong Loc is playing with his food like we all used to as kids. But his creations are infinitely tastier: Chinapie is his mashed-potato volcano. ■

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY
BY ROB BREZSNY

For the Week of April 26

ARIES (March 21–April 19): I have misgivings when I witness bears riding bicycles or tigers dancing on their hind legs or Aries people wielding diplomatic phrases and making careful compromises at committee meetings. While I am impressed by the disciplined expression of primal power, I worry for the soul of the creature that is behaving with such civilized restraint. So here's my advice for you in the coming weeks: Take advantage of opportunities to make deals and forge win-win situations. But also keep a part of your fiery heart untamed. Don't let people think they've got you all figured out.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): "One of the advantages of being disorderly," said author A.A. Milne, "is that one is constantly making exciting discoveries." I wouldn't normally offer this idea as advice to a methodical dynamo like you. But my interpretation of the astrological omens compels me to override my personal theories about what you need. I must suggest that you consider experimenting with jaunty, rambunctious behavior in the coming days, even if it generates some disorder. The potential reward? Exciting discoveries, of course.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): According to my reading of the astrological omens, it's time for you to take a break from the magic you have been weaving since your birthday in 2016. That's why I'm suggesting that you go on a brief sabbatical. Allow your deep mind to fully integrate the lessons you've been learning and the transformations you have undergone over the past 11 months. In a few weeks, you'll be ready to resume where you left off. For now, though, you require breathing room. Your spiritual batteries need time to recharge. The hard work you've done should be balanced by an extended regimen of relaxed playtime.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): Apparently, a lot of kids in the UK don't like to eat vegetables. In response, food researchers in that country marketed a variety of exotic variations designed to appeal to their palate. The new dishes included chocolate-flavored carrots, pizza-flavored corn, and cheese-and-onion-flavored cauliflower. I don't recommend that you get quite so extreme in trying to broaden your own appeal, Cancerian. But see if you can at least reach out to your potential constituency with a new wrinkle or fresh twist. Be imaginative as you expand the range of what your colleagues and clientele have to choose from.

LEO (July 23–Aug 22): In speaking about the arduous quest to become one's authentic self, writer Thomas Merton used the example of poets who aspire to be original but end up being imitative. "Many poets never succeed in being themselves," he said. "They never get around to being the particular poet they are intended to be by God. They never become the person or artist who is called for by all of the circumstances of their individual lives. They waste their years in vain efforts to be some other poet. They wear out their minds and bodies in a hopeless endeavor to have somebody else's experiences or write somebody else's poems." I happen to believe that this is a problem for non-poets, as well. Many of us never succeed in becoming ourselves. Luckily for you, Leo, in the coming weeks and months you will have an unprecedented chance to become more of who you really are. To expedite the process, work on dissolving any attraction you might have to acting like someone other than yourself.

VIRGO (Aug 23–Sept 22): On numerous occasions, French acrobat Charles Blondin walked across a tightrope that spanned the gorge near Niagara Falls. His cable was three and a quarter inches in diameter, 1,100 feet long, and 160 feet above the Niagara River. Once he made the entire crossing by doing backflips and somersaults. Another time he carried a small stove on his back, stopped midway to cook an omelet, and ate the meal before finishing. Now would be an excellent time for you to carry out your personal equivalent of his feats, Virgo. What daring actions have you never tried before even though you've been sufficiently trained or educated to perform them well?

LIBRA (Sept 23–Oct 22): Ready for some subterranean journeys? They may not involve literal explorations of deep caverns and ancient tunnels and underground streams. You may not stumble upon lost treasure and forgotten artifacts and valuable ruins. But then again, you might. At the very least, you will encounter metaphorical versions of some of the above. What mysteries would you love to solve? What secrets would be fun to uncover? What shadows would you be excited to illuminate?

SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21): Why would you guzzle mind-clouding moonshine when you will eventually get a chance to sip a heart-reviving tonic? Why spoil your appetite by loading up on non-nutritious hors d'oeuvres when a healthy feast will be available sooner than you imagine? I advise you to suppress your compulsion for immediate gratification. It may seem impossible for you to summon such heroic patience, but I know you can. And in the long run, you'll be happy if you do.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22–Dec 21): "You'll always be my favorite what-if." Many years ago, I heard that phrase whispered in my ear. It came from the mouth of a wonderful-but-impossible woman. We had just decided that it was not a good plan, as we had previously fantasized, to run away and get married at Angkor Wat in Cambodia and then spend the next decade being tour guides who led travelers on exotic getaways to the world's sacred sites. "You'll always be my favorite what-if" was a poignant but liberating moment. It allowed us to move on with our lives and pursue other dreams that were more realistic and productive. I invite you to consider triggering a liberation like that sometime soon.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22–Jan 19): I'd love to see you increase the number of people, places, and experiences you love, as well as the wise intensity with which you love them. From an astrological perspective, now is an excellent time to upgrade your appreciation and adoration for the whole world and everything in it. To get you in the mood, I'll call your attention to some unfamiliar forms of ardor you may want to pursue: eraunophilia, an attraction to thunder and lightning; cymophilia, a fascination with waves and waviness; chorophilia, a passion for dancing; asymmetrophilia, a zeal for asymmetrical things; sapiophilia, an erotic enchantment with intelligence.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20–Feb 18): You could go online and buy an antique Gothic throne or a psychedelic hippie couch to spruce up your living room. For your bathroom, you could get a Japanese "wonder toilet," complete with a heated seat, automated bidet, and white-noise generator. Here's another good idea: You could build a sacred crazy altar in your bedroom where you will conduct rituals of playful liberation. Or how about this? Acquire a kit that enables you to create spontaneous poetry on your refrigerator door using tiny magnets with evocative words written on them. Can you think of other ideas to revitalize your home environment? It's high time you did so.

PISCES (Feb 19–March 20): Among America's 50 states, Texas has the third-highest rate of teenage pregnancies. Uncoincidentally, sex education in Texas is steeped in ignorance. Most of its high schools offer no teaching about contraception other than to advise students to avoid sex. In the coming weeks, Pisces, you can't afford to be as deprived of the truth as those kids. Even more than usual, you need accurate information that's tailored to your precise needs, not fake news or ideological delusions or self-serving propaganda. Make sure you gather insight and wisdom from the very best sources. That's how you'll avoid behavior that's irrelevant to your life goals. That's how you'll attract experiences that serve your highest good. ■

Homework: What's the most beautiful thing you've ever done? Testify! Go to realastrology.com and click "Email Rob."

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PERSON OF INTEREST



Kellie Newton

TEXT BY KATIE HERZOG
PHOTO BY STANTON STEPHENS

Like any American worth their “I voted” sticker, massage therapist Kellie Newton was appalled by the election results last November. She was also pissed. But when her childhood friend Heidi Petak, now an evangelical Christian living in Nashville, wrote a blog post explaining her vote for Trump, Newton decided to engage. Their initial dialogue took place on Facebook, but soon the two started video-chatting about the election and their beliefs using the principles of “compassionate listening,” and they posted the conversations on YouTube. Newton and Petak began hosting in-person meet-ups and workshops in Nashville and Seattle, which led them to form the Heart Perception Project—where they try to get people from both sides of the political divide to connect.

Is this an act of resistance?

I am resisting the end result of not engaging with the other side—a strategy that seems rampant today. We’ve gotten so good at saying “No!” to each other in so many ways. So my act of resistance is saying, “Yes. Tell me more.” We—both sides—either shun each other, shame each other, or try to change each other. The long-term effect of that is what we’re experiencing now: a country that no longer knows itself. We have become deeply alienated from our fellow citizens. This is my act of resistance to going down that path any further.

You are working with an evangelical Trump supporter on this. What is that like? Can you find common ground with someone who thinks the world was made in six days?

I love this question because it really gets at the assumptions we make about people when we put them into such a limited box. It’s been amazing. I’ve had to work hard to consciously choose curiosity instead of reactivity at times, but how do I relate with Heidi? The same way I do with any of my liberal friends: through shared passions and hopes and fears and all of that messy stuff that comes with being human.

Have any minds been changed in this process?

Another question I love because it really speaks to what people’s agendas usually are when engaging with someone from the other side: to change them. I really had to let go of that agenda to do this work. We all can sniff out when someone engages with us with an intent to change us. When someone does that with me, my walls go up and I’m out. So I actively work to disengage that agenda (with varying degrees of success) when I talk to conservatives. What I will say is that connection makes people think twice about dehumanizing each other on both sides.

You’re also a massage therapist. Do you have more clients talking about political anxiety right now?

Less so now than directly after the election, when I acted as a pseudo head therapist because people just needed to process their fear. Their bodies and nervous systems were on high alert, and I spent a lot of time talking people down from the fear cliff. I did lose one client who decided after the election to use her monthly massage budget for activism instead. I can’t fault her for that.

What’s your strategy for combating Trump fatigue?

I used to have this reflex where I instantly turned off the car stereo when NPR aired a Trump clip because it created such a visceral response in me to hear him talk. Now I’m actively trying to change that. In our workshops, we talk about neuro-pathways that take us down a reactive, limbic-system response versus a measured, pragmatic response. As I’m not willing to let my reactivity govern me anymore, I’m actively working to practice choice in how I respond. And if I’m trying to better understand people who voted for Trump, I have to actually start listening to him, too. ■

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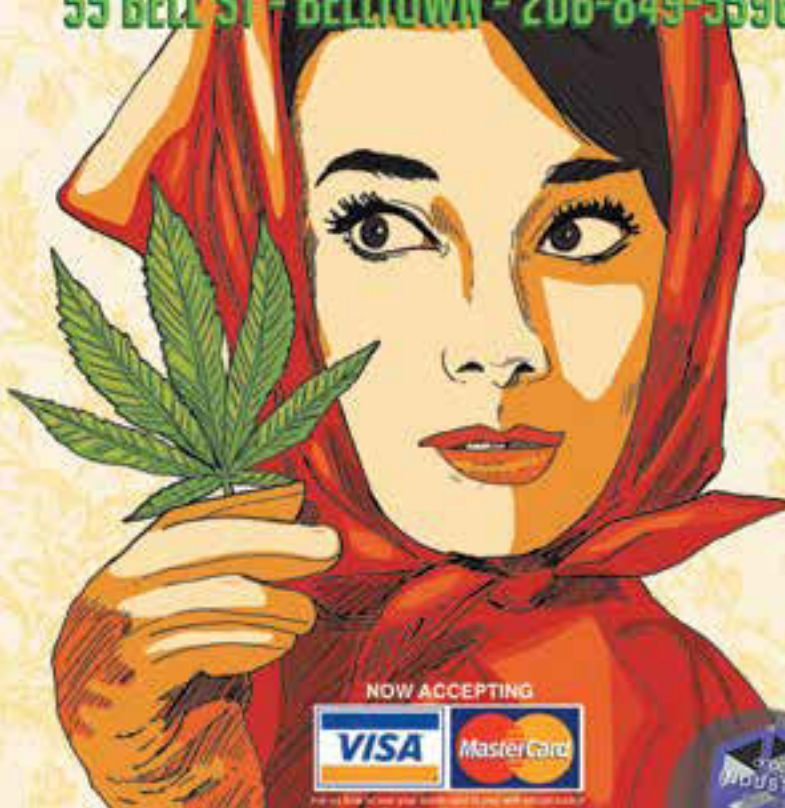
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